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Dysfunctional force

Slew of failures leaves German military on the brink

By JOHN VANDIVER
Stars and Stripes

Germany's military is virtually undeployable and security experts say it is too weak to meet its obligations to its allies, as it prepares to assume command of NATO's crisis response force next year.

Pressure on Berlin is mounting after a series of revelations has exposed the German

None of Germany's submarines is currently operational, only four of its 128 Eurofighter jets are combat-ready and the army is short dozens of tanks and armored vehicles needed for NATO missions.

military as one of the least combat ready in NATO, despite its economic heft.

"The readiness of the German military is abysmal," said Jorge Benitez, a NATO expert with the Atlantic Council in Washington. "For years, German leaders have known that major elements of their armed forces, such as tanks, submarines and fighter jets, are not fully operational and can't be used for actual military missions."

SEE DYSFUNCTIONAL ON PAGE 8

N. Korea threatens to cancel US summit

By KIM GAMEL
Stars and Stripes

SEOUL, South Korea — After months of surprising outreach to former enemies, North Korea threatened to scrap its upcoming summit with the United States and renewed criticism of U.S.-South Korean war games.

The state-run Korean Central News Agency quoted senior foreign ministry official Kim Kye Gwan on Wednesday as saying that the North will "have to reconsider" the summit if the Trump administration "corners us and tries to unilaterally force us to give up nuclear weapons."

The warning came hours after the North canceled a high-level meeting with Seoul to protest annual U.S.-South Korean Air Force drills known as Max Thunder.

The harsh rhetoric cast a shadow over recent diplomatic gains and dealt a new challenge to the U.S. less than a month before President Donald Trump plans to meet with North Korean leader Kim Jong Un in Singapore. It would be the first-ever summit between the rival nations.

SEE SUMMIT ON PAGE 2



Kwon Joong-woo, Yonhap/AP

A U.S. Air Force F-16 lands during the Max Thunder exercise at Osan Air Base in Pyeongtaek, South Korea, on Wednesday. North Korea has renewed its objections to military exercises between the U.S. and South Korea.

PACIFIC

Summit: N. Korea warns US as it cancels talks with South over drills

FROM FRONT PAGE

Analysts said the reclusive communist state is probably not planning to pull out of the summit but rather may be seeking leverage to raise the price during its upcoming talks with Trump.

Trump's administration has insisted its main objective is the complete and verifiable dismantling of Pyongyang's nuclear weapons program, while the North has said it wants a phased approach with an eye toward lifting punishing economic sanctions.

"We're seeing a variation on a very old and very familiar game here by the North Koreans," said Evans Revere, a former State Department official who has been involved in past negotiations with Pyongyang. "We should not be surprised at this. Part of it involves testing the seriousness of the United States."

"They're also trying to change the subject ... by focusing on the exercises," he said in a telephone interview. "The North Koreans want to ensure that Washington knows that denuclearization as the United States defines it is unlikely to happen."

The North usually objects to the annual joint war games, which it considers rehearsals for an invasion, but it had been largely silent on the issue this year as the sides sought to ease tensions that had spiked over its effort to develop a nuclear weapon that could target the U.S. mainland.

Exercises continue

KCNA singled out Max Thunder in a pre-dawn statement as the South Koreans learned the North was canceling plans to meet in the heavily fortified border area to hash out details for implementing agreements reached by Kim and



ANN YOUNG-JOON/AP

South Korean protesters stage a rally against the Max Thunder joint military exercise between the United States and South Korea near the U.S. embassy in Seoul, South Korea, on Wednesday.

South Korean President Moon Jae-in at their summit.

It warned Washington "to think twice about the fate of the [North Korean]-U.S. summit" before conducting "a provocative military racket against [the North] in league with the south Korean authorities."

Washington and Seoul agreed to postpone recent springtime drills known as Foal Eagle/Key Resolve until after the Feb. 9-25 Olympics to facilitate the start of talks with the North.

They resumed the exercises after the Winter Games, but the State Department said that Kim had indicated the North understood that would happen because the drills had been long planned.

State Department spokeswoman Heather Nauert said Washington had not heard anything directly from Pyongyang or Seoul that would change that. "We will continue to go ahead and plan the meeting between President

Trump and Kim Jong Un," she said.

The Pentagon, meanwhile, insisted the exercises are defensive in nature.

Gen. Vincent Brooks, commander of U.S. Forces Korea, met with South Korean Defense Minister Song Young-moo on Wednesday to discuss the way forward.

The two allies agreed to press ahead with the two-week Max Thunder exercise, which began Friday and involves about 100 aircraft, including F-22 fighter jets.

"There are no differences between the South and the U.S.," the ministry said in a statement. "The exercise is designed to enhance the capabilities of pilots and is not the implementation of an operational plan or an attack maneuver."

USFK spokesman Col. Chad Carroll said supersonic U.S. bombers would not be deployed as part of the exercise, but he denied reports that was in response

to North Korea's comments, saying the decision was made some time ago.

New challenge

Kim Kye Gwan, who was also a former North Korean nuclear negotiator, said separately that the North has made clear its intent to achieve a nuclear-free Korean Peninsula and reiterated demands for security assurances for the regime from Washington.

He also criticized recent comments by National Security Adviser John Bolton who said the so-called "Libyan model" of nuclear disarmament could apply to North Korea with the goal of complete, verifiable and irreversible dismantlement.

"We will respond appropriately to the Trump administration if it approaches the North Korea-U.S. summit with an honest intent to improve relations," Kim said in a statement on KCNA. "But we are no longer interested in negotiations that will be all about cornering us and making a unilateral demand for us to give up our nukes."

Libya is a sensitive subject for the North Koreans. Kim Jong Un took power after his father died of a heart attack in 2011, just weeks after former Libyan leader Moammar Gadhafi was killed by rebel forces after being ousted from power.

The uprising against him was supported by NATO airstrikes despite his agreement years earlier to dismantle his nuclear program in exchange for sanctions relief.

North Korea has a track record of raising tensions, then agreeing to talks only to see the efforts falter over broken promises and mistrust.

"The prudent course of action is neither to rush to make concessions or to further inflame the situ-

ation with a hard-line response," said Lindsey Ford, a former Asia security specialist at the Defense Department.

"The fact that North Korea and the United States don't have the same vision of denuclearization should be surprising to absolutely no one. But it also doesn't mean a more realistic deal should be off the table and can't be had," she said in an email.

"We quiet negotiation and some willingness to compromise, there may be a way to creatively thread the needle in defining 'de-nuclearization' that meets objectives for both sides," she added.

South Korea's Unification Ministry said it received a fax after midnight from the North advising that it was canceling the meeting, which had been intended to hash out details for implementing agreements reached during the April 27 summit between Kim and Moon.

Spokesman Baik Tae-hyun called the decision "regrettable" and "inconsistent with the fundamental spirit and purpose of the Panmunjom declaration," as the summit agreement is known.

Trump and Moon also plan to meet Tuesday in Washington to discuss talks with the North.

Revere, a nonresident senior fellow at the Washington-based Brookings Institution, noted that North Korea has suspended nuclear and intercontinental ballistic missile tests and has begun to dismantle its main nuclear test site. "The message from the North Koreans is we are prepared to carve off pieces of our nuclear weapons program ... in return for significant steps that the United States would take, particularly in the area of sanctions relief," he said.

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MILITARY



Screen grab from YouTube

An image from the video that shows a U.S. servicemember firing a shotgun at a truck in Afghanistan. An investigation found that the driver ignored warnings and the servicemember fired a beanbag, in accordance with military rules.

Probe: 'No criminality' in incident of soldier shooting into Afghan truck

By CHAD GARLAND
Stars and Stripes

An American servicemember seen in an online video shooting into a moving truck in Afghanistan acted in accordance with military rules, an investigation has found.

The findings of the Army's Criminal Investigation Command's investigation were first reported by VICE News on Friday. An official with the command confirmed the findings to Stars and Stripes.

About 20 seconds into a 3-minute video montage of combat footage, a 2-second clip apparently shot from a helmet camera shows what appears to be a servicemember in the gun turret of an RG33 Mine Resistant Ambush Protected vehicle firing a Benelli tactical shotgun at the driver of a civilian cargo truck. The driver's side window shatters and the montage cuts away a few frames later.

The investigation into the incident was launched in January, after Politico reported on the footage. Titled "Happy Few Ordinance Symphony," it featured dozens of clips of combat purportedly from eastern Afghanistan

set to the Kendrick Lamar song "Humble," and was posted online to promote a fledgling tactical clothing brand reportedly started by special operations veterans.

After a thorough investigation, CIC special agents found that the Americans had "acted in accordance with the rules of engagement," Christopher Grey, a spokesman for the command, said in a statement.

"An Afghan driver ignored several warnings not to encroach on the U.S. convoy, so a non-lethal beanbag projectile was fired at the driver," Grey said.

It's not clear where the shooting took place, what units were involved, or whether the driver was injured. Officials with CIC declined to comment beyond Grey's brief statement and did not immediately release a copy of the investigation.

Twitter user and Afghan journalist M. H. Arselal had alerted NATO military officials in Kabul to the clip on Twitter back in January, suggesting it showed "your men shooting directly into a truck for fun."

Attempts by Stars and Stripes to locate the driver or the site of the shooting were unsuccessful,

but servicemembers in the video wore uniforms, gear and badges similar to those worn by U.S. special operations forces. The video description indicates they were battling Islamic State, which at the time was mostly being done by U.S. and Afghan special operations troops in the country's east.

The clips show troops tossing grenades into hiding holes, firing automatic weapons, grenade launchers, rockets and mortars, and observing other strikes.

It quickly prompted military officials to call for a probe, with Army Gen. Joseph Votel, head of U.S. Central Command, saying he had reviewed the video and was "disappointed."

Soon after it was announced that the video would be investigated, it was deleted and the accounts related to the military-themed Happy Few Co. clothing brand shuttered.

The three-month investigation that ensued "determined there was no criminality," the command said.

Copies of the video have since been republished in several places online.

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Air canister sparks alert at Yokota

By LEON COOK
Stars and Stripes

YOKOTA AIR BASE, Japan — Air Force officials sounded the all-clear about three hours after suspected unexploded ordnance was found Wednesday at the home of U.S. Forces Japan in western Tokyo.

The object — identified later as a footlong compressed-air canister — was uncovered at about noon near the 374th Mission Support Group's administration building, an Air Force statement said.

"Real World Yokota Air Base, Japan. This is the Command Post. Shelter in place has been declared for [buildings] 316, 305, 315, 400, 580, 313 until further notice due to a possible UXO discovery," said a text alert sent by base officials.

Security forces cordoned off the area, and nearby personnel were advised to take cover behind inte-

rior walls, according to a separate text alert.

Explosive ordnance disposal experts possessed the situation before the all-clear was sounded just after 3 p.m. An Air Force statement said the canister didn't contain explosives and "there was never a threat to any personnel on or near the site."

The University of Maryland University College Asia, which holds classes in one of the affected buildings, canceled classes for the day in response to the alert.

Since Yokota is on the site of older military bases, unknown or suspicious objects are occasionally found, the Air Force said. They are treated as dangerous until experts can verify they don't present a threat.

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Army garrison in Bavaria restricts alcohol sales

By MARTIN EGNASH
Stars and Stripes

GRAFENWOEHR, Germany — U.S. Army Garrison Bavaria is seeking to cut down on the number of alcohol-related incidents by introducing restrictions on the sale of beer, wine and spirits and by conducting military police safety checks at the Grafenwoehr Training Area.

The initiative — which includes stopping alcohol sales after 9 p.m. at Army and Air Force Exchange Service stores at the garrison — was introduced last month after a spike in alcohol-related driving incidents at Grafenwoehr, base officials said. Such incidents, which include drunk driving arrests, increased from seven in January to 20 in March.

There is no set date to expand restrictions to installations in Hohenfels and Garmisch, but those posts may introduce it at some point if needed, Army officials said.

In April, five alcohol-related driving incidents were reported at Grafenwoehr; no incidents have been confirmed yet for May.

"Though we're not jumping to conclusions, we're hopeful that our initiatives are having an impact," base spokesman Nathaniel Van Schaik said.

The restrictions and safety checks aim to curb unhealthy conduct related to alcohol consumption, such as high-risk behavior and suicide, in addition to drinking and driving.

An analysis showed that most alcohol-related incidents are occurring between 1 a.m. and 6 a.m., said Melissa Kreitzer, base community readiness and resiliency integrator.

"Unit readiness continues to be affected negatively by alcohol-related incidents occurring both on and off the installation," Kreitzer told Stars and Stripes. "USAG Bavaria is working to create a healthy culture that leverages unit participation with existing resources to develop responsible drinking while reducing alcohol-related incidents throughout the community."

Garrison military police are also making random safety stops, Kreitzer said. As a rule, police will not be conducting random blood-alcohol tests as part of the stops, though they do present an opportunity to catch drunk drivers. The primary aim is to give soldiers and community members safety tips and to pass out flyers that include emergency phone numbers, information about alcohol consumption and ideas for having fun without alcohol, Van Schaik said.



MARTIN EGNASH/Stars and Stripes

One of the signs posted at AAFES locations at U.S. Army Garrison Bavaria announcing a limit on the sale of alcohol at certain times.

The initiative encourages soldiers to participate in activities where alcohol is not the principal focus. These include exploring the community, volunteering at the USO and participating in unit events, Kreitzer said.

Other organizations around the garrison are helping out. The base theater is offering their building as an alternative facility for substance abuse training, the USO will present an alcohol-free drink demonstration and the American Forces Network will carry out a radio campaign reminding listeners of the resources available to them.

The garrison began the initiative in conjunction with Alcohol Awareness Month in April.

In December, German police said that alcohol-related driving offenses are a problem in the area because troops often do not understand the seriousness of violating German laws.

Eschenbach Deputy Police Chief Armin Bock said that "the rotation of the troops" through the area was one reason for the relatively high incidence of DUIs. Grafenwoehr is the Army's largest overseas training area.

"Often, (soldiers) are not sensitive enough to how Germany is treating drivers who are caught behind the wheel when they are drunk," Bock said.

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MILITARY

Calif. base psychologist accused of rape

By JULIE WATSON
Associated Press

A clinical psychologist who treated military veterans dealing with post-traumatic stress has been charged with raping female servicemembers who were in therapy as victims of sex assaults, officials said Tuesday.

Heath J. Sommer was ordered Monday to stand trial on three felony sexual assault charges after authorities said he targeted female servicemembers in 2014 and 2015 while working at Travis Air Force Base's David Grant Medical Center, about 50 miles northeast of San Francisco.

Sommer was arrested earlier this month and pleaded not guilty to the charges.

His attorney, Thomas Maas, did not return telephone messages seeking comment.

Maas told the judge at a hearing Monday in Fairfield, Calif., that the sex was consensual, ac-

cording to The Daily Republic newspaper. Maas said his client had not committed a crime and the actions were part of his therapy work.

Prosecutors allege the 41-year-old psychologist used a technique called exposure therapy and would ask the women to have sex with him, leaving them "even more traumatized."

One of the women, an officer in therapy after being raped in 2002 while deployed to Afghanistan, told the investigator that Sommer moved the sessions to his home.

He told her he wanted to treat her by having her re-experience every facet of her sexual assault and then asked her to have sex with him so she could have a "positive and loving" experience, according to the prosecution.

Another woman told the investigator that as part of Sommer's "exposure therapy" in 2015, he exposed himself and had her give him oral sex in his office.

In another session, he groped her, according to testimony at the hearing reported by the newspaper.

The base hired Sommer through a contracting company in 2014 and he treated more than 100 people before being

suspended on July 12, 2016, said Staff Sgt. Amber Carter, a base spokeswoman.

He was vetted by the contracting company, Aloha Health Joint Venture, and the Air Force also did a background check, Air Force officials said.

"Nothing popped up during the background check," said Tonya Racasner, a base spokeswoman.

As soon as Air Force officials learned of the allegations, they took immediate action and suspended him, she added.

"We take sexual assault very seriously," Racasner said.

In light of the case, she said the base is looking at its procedures and also reviewing the treatments given at its medical center, she said, adding that exposure therapy usually entails writing a narrative about one's experience.

"We don't really condone exposure therapy," she said.

The base also reached out to all of Sommer's patients to offer help, she said.

The case comes as sexual assault continues to be a pervasive problem in the military.

According to an annual Pentagon report released in April, the number of reported sexual assaults grew by about 10 percent,

while sexual harassment cases were up by 16 percent over the previous year.

Pentagon officials say the increase in reporting reflects a broader confidence in the system and is a positive trend because sexual assault is a highly under-reported crime. But it's unclear if the jump in harassment and retaliation complaints reflect a similar confidence or simply represent a growing problem.

Travis Air Force officials say they are encouraging victims to continue to come forward and hope the Sommer case does not deter them from seeking help.

"We know this is an on-going issue worldwide, and not just in the Air Force," Racasner said. "We just feel for us, it's all about educating folks, and ensuring individuals are being effectively taken care of."

Air Force officials said military investigators are working with the Fairfield police on the Sommer case.

Sommer also faces four charges of sexual battery filed after his 2016 arrest by Fairfield police. He remains in jail with bail set at \$750,000.

Senator's widow celebrates destroyer

BATH, Maine — The wife of the late Sen. Daniel Inouye of Hawaii has helped a Navy shipbuilder celebrate a milestone in construction of a destroyer bearing his name. Irene Hirano Inouye's initials were etched into the ship's steel during a keel-laying ceremony on Monday at Bath Iron Works. As the ship's sponsor, she will be responsible for christening the future USS Daniel Inouye later this year or early next year.

Inouye served as senator from Hawaii from 1963 until his death in 2012. He was awarded the Medal of Honor for heroism in Italy during World War II, where he lost his right arm in combat.

Fort Knox marking 100th anniversary

FORT KNOX, Ky. — Soldiers, civilian employees and people from the community are getting together this month to celebrate Kentucky military post Fort Knox as it marks its centennial.

They will gather May 22 to recreate a photo taken when the Army post was established in 1918, with soldiers then forming to spell out "Camp Knox."

The post said it is including the larger community in the centennial version of the photo to show its appreciation for the support it's been given.

From The Associated Press

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THE NEW SANNO

MILITARY

Army life: Engagement, baby, tours and wedding plans from afar

By DENISE RAUDA
Stars and Stripes

When Sgt. Isaiah Alexander Marion proposed to Staff Sgt. Cilia Edwards in January of last year, the couple never expected to be planning their wedding 7,000 miles apart.

Marion and Edwards — both intelligence analysts with the Texas National Guard — met during a drill in 2015. Two years later, the newly engaged couple had just welcomed a new baby when they received some unexpected news: deployment orders. The mother of four learned of her upcoming nine-month tour to Iraq only one day after the end of her maternity leave.

"My first thought was my baby," Edwards told Stars and Stripes in an email. "My second thought was, 'I simply have to do this.' It's the job. So, I started making a plan to save enough breast milk to last through my baby's first birthday and getting my family prepared."

Wedding preparations quickly turned to preparations for deployment. Edwards left for Irbil in June 2017. The couple's wedding date was set for November 2018; however, a few months into Edwards' deployment, Marion also received orders



JASON YOUNG/Courtesy of the U.S. Army

Staff Sgt. Cilia Edwards, an intelligence analyst with the Texas National Guard, poses for a bridal photoshoot during her deployment to Iraq, Jan. 16, 2017.

to deploy to the Middle East. The couple had to move up their ceremony to coincide with the end of her deployment and the start of his.

Being in Iraq and pushing the date up to April 28 of this year meant there would be no time for cake-tastings, catering appointments or visiting venues.

"This process has been hard, it's been really hard," Edwards said in an article published by the Texas Military Department in February. "Nobody wants to be deployed during an engagement. You want to be

with your fiancé and doing all of these things together."

Being in Iraq also meant she'd have to say yes to a dress from an online store and skip the traditional dress-fitting sessions a bride might have in the States. Edwards had alterations done by an on-post tailor in Irbil and chatted with him about her wedding plans over tea.

"That was kind of weird and different," she said in the article. "Normally you would go to the bridal shop with your bridesmaids, but I didn't have that kind of time."



Courtesy of Cilia Marion

The Marions walk down the aisle in Houston on April 28.

Despite the unusual circumstances, Edwards said her fellow soldiers were supportive of her planning. When her dress was finally ready, they helped her do her makeup, scout locations in a Humvee and carried out a sofa from the personnel office for an impromptu photoshoot around Irbil.

"Everyone was excited to think of such a happy occasion in the middle of the strain of a deployment," Edwards said.

Edwards' advice for planning a wedding while deployed: "Stay or-

ganized, start early, and nail down the theme for your vision first. You will need a central theme to narrow your choices and you can save tons by starting early."

Edwards said she and Marion learned a lot from having to plan a wedding apart.

"[Deployment] really cultivated the love we already had," she said. The couple married in Houston on April 30, a few weeks after her return from Iraq.

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MILITARY

Fitzgerald commander attacks Navy's claims

BY CLAUDIA GRISALES
Stars and Stripes

WASHINGTON — Lawyers for the former USS Fitzgerald commander in charge during the ship's deadly collision last year are firing back against a series of Navy statements that they claim could damage his pending court-martial.

Lawyers for Cmdr. Bryce Benson on Tuesday issued a surprising one-page rebuke of statements from senior Navy leaders and other officials since last year. The statement from Lt. Cmdr. Justin Henderson and Cmdr. Ben Robertson detailed Benson's most extensive comments to date about the incident and claimed the Navy's harmful comments assigned guilt before his court-martial.

On Wednesday, Henderson said his client will be asserting his innocence.

"We are not pleading guilty," he said. "There will be no agreement."

Benson, 41, is facing charges of negligent homicide, negligent dereliction of duty and negligent hazarding of a vessel.

Henderson pointed to a recent Navy news release that served as a "dog whistle" to suggest Benson failed to accept responsibility for the crash that left seven sailors dead because he didn't plead



Benson

guilty, as well as other comments by top Navy officials in congressional hearings and other public forums since August. For example, a Nov. 1 report said "leadership failed" to adhere to safety protocols in the Fitzgerald incident. The next day, Adm. John Richardson, chief of naval operations, told reporters that there was negligence in the Fitzgerald and USS John S. McCain crashes, adding "we found that the commanders were at fault."

Last week, a news release detailed a guilty plea from the junior lieutenant in charge of navigating the Fitzgerald for dereliction of duty.

"By pleading guilty today, Lt. j.g. Sarah Coppock has accepted responsibility for the role she played in the USS Fitzgerald collision," the May 8 release stated.

On Wednesday, a Navy spokesman rejected the claims of prejudicial bias in their news releases.

"The statements we have provided to reporters are on the facts and status of the proceedings alone, and are done so in accordance with Navy regulations for release of information pertaining to the administration of military justice," Cmdr. William Speaks wrote in an email.

Benson's strongly worded claims mark a new turn in the courts-martial following the deadly Navy destroyer collisions last year involving the Fitzgerald and the McCain. Ten sailors died aboard the McCain.

Benson, who is still recovering from a traumatic brain injury sustained in the crash, has remained largely silent during the Navy's attacks on him out of respect to the families of the sailors killed in the crash, his lawyers said.

Yet "senior Navy leaders have repeatedly used public forums to assign guilt, foreclose legitimate defenses and cast unwarranted aspersions," said Henderson and Robertson, both of whom have held their Navy posts for more than 10 years.

Henderson and Robertson said Tuesday that while the former Fitzgerald commander grieves for his "seven brave sailors," he had taken every opportunity to spare the families of the sailors killed from reliving the events that led up to the crash.

Subsequently, Benson on Monday waived his right to a preliminary hearing to determine whether he should face criminal

charges in the incident, the lawyers said. The Article 32 hearing, which was slated to take place at the Navy Yard in Washington on May 21, was canceled. It's now up to a panel of Navy officials, known as the Consolidated Disposition Authority, to decide whether there's enough evidence to proceed with a court-martial. A decision could be handed down in the coming months.

"Cmdr. Benson's approach to accountability stands in stark contrast to the Navy's method of litigating this case through the media and other out-of-court opinions," Henderson and Robertson said in their joint statement.

"Rather than achieving accountability, the Navy's strategy amounts the very system of justice that is designed to protect sailors."

Benson commanded the Fitzgerald for only five weeks when the ship crashed June 17 into a civilian merchant vessel about 60 miles southwest of Yokosuka Naval Base, Japan.

Last week, a preliminary hearing for two junior officers charged in the Fitzgerald crash highlighted a series of errors by the ship's crew, readiness challenges and other concerns that contributed to the deadly incident.

The Navy's statements could come into question, said one law professor.

"While there are many reasons to issue public statements about the course of the investigations and prosecutions, the Navy should follow a tight course that does not appear to prejudice the right of the defense," said Lawrence B. Brennan, a law professor at Fordham University School of Law.

Court proceedings at the Navy Yard will start next week for the McCain's deadly crash, which took place just two months after the Fitzgerald collision. The McCain, also a Navy destroyer, collided with an oil tanker near Singapore.

Chief Boatwain's Mate Jeffery D. Butler will face a summary court-martial May 24. Former McCain commanding officer Cmdr. Alfredo J. Sanchez is scheduled for arraignment at a special court-martial May 25.

Navy investigations found both collisions were avoidable and caused by failures in planning, training, procedures and operations. Part of that, the Navy found, was caused by the intense operational pace the fleet has been maintaining in recent years.

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S. Korea-based GI wants to raise child wife lied about

BY CHAD GARLAND
Stars and Stripes

A South Korea-based soldier has been entangled in a monthlong drama complete with a cheating spouse, long-distance lies and kidnapping charges.

Sgt. Steven Garcia, 24, is a patrol supervisor with the 142nd Military Police Company at Yongsan Garrison in Seoul. In January, he was told that his wife, Marina Garcia, had given birth to a daughter back home in Arizona who died during childbirth.

"When my sister called me about that, it was pretty emotional," Steven Garcia told KVOA News in Tucson. "We cried quite a bit together over the phone. It was devastating."

But he soon learned it wasn't true.

On Feb. 5, an Arizona highway patrolman pulled over an out-of-state vehicle for speeding north of Willcox, Ariz., according to court documents. Inside was a Texas couple and a newborn.

Upon questioning the couple — Alex Hernandez, 33, and his wife, Leslie Morin Hernandez, 41 — the trooper learned that neither was a biological parent of the 3-day-old infant, the documents said.

Further questioning at the police station revealed that Alex Hernandez "fraudulently signed the birth certificate as the father after Marina Garcia ar-

ranged to give the child to them."

The Hernandezes were taken into custody, and the baby, who relatives said is named Leo, was handed over to Arizona's Department of Child Safety.

Later that day, detectives questioned Marina Garcia, who was living in Sierra Vista with her boyfriend, an Army specialist. She admitted to conspiring with the Hernandezes and planned to travel to Texas to sign away her parental rights after recovering from delivery, according to court documents obtained by Stars and Stripes.

"The only thing on her mind was getting rid of this child, this problem in her life," Cochise County Attorney Brian McIntyre told KVOA.

Marina Garcia, who told investigators she carried the baby to 37 weeks, said she didn't know who the father was and that it couldn't have been her husband, court documents show.

When a detective called Steven Garcia in February, the soldier said he'd last had sex with his wife in May 2017, before leaving for South Korea, which would have been around the time of conception.

After police seized Marina Garcia and Leslie Hernandez's phones, officers found messages between Marina Garcia and her husband indicating he believed he was the father. DNA tests later proved otherwise.



Courtesy of GoFundMe.com

Army Sgt. Steven Garcia holds a baby boy who is at the center of an unusual custody battle.

"I was under the assumption the entire time that she was pregnant that I was the father," he told KVOA. "When I found out I wasn't, I was pretty upset. I was kind of in denial. I couldn't believe what was going on."

Still thinking he was the father after police contacted him, Steven Garcia took emergency leave and bought his own tickets to fly home, according to his cousin, Shelby Clark.

He was granted eight visits with "Baby Leo," but was not given custody.

Steven Garcia hired an attor-

ney, said Clark, who started a GoFundMe to raise money for his travel and legal expenses.

Though he's not the baby's biological father and wants a divorce, Steven Garcia still plans to fight for custody. The reason: He was adopted.

"My adopted father completely changed my life," he said to KVOA. "Without him I would not be where I am today, and for the opportunity to do that for someone else, I believe it's important. It could change the child's life and give him a better future, and I believe that's the right thing to do," Garcia said.

do."

On Feb. 8, a grand jury indicted Marina Garcia and the Hernandezes on one count each of kidnapping, fraudulent schemes, conspiracy and fraud by concealment.

Marina Garcia and Alex Hernandez were also charged with forgery.

Last month, Alex Hernandez pleaded guilty to the forgery charge, while his wife pleaded guilty to one count of fraudulent schemes. The other charges were dismissed.

The pair later received four years of supervised probation.

Marina Garcia later pleaded guilty to a felony count of an attempted fraudulent scheme for forging the birth certificate. Her sentencing, originally slated for this week, is scheduled for next month, KVOA reported. It was pushed back because her attorney was contesting a recommendation that she be sentenced to prison.

The baby is in foster care, but Steven Garcia hopes someday to be his real dad.

"It could change the child's life and give him a better future, and I believe that's the right thing to do," Garcia said.

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WAR ON TERRORISM

Afghan officials: Airstrikes saved Farah from Taliban

By J.P. LAWRENCE
AND ZUBAIR BABAKARKHAIL
Stars and Stripes

The Taliban's one-day assault on the capital of strategically important Farah province is over, as militant forces withdrew early Wednesday after intense strikes by U.S. and Afghan airpower.

Government forces defending the city of 55,000 people close to the Iranian border were on the brink of defeat Tuesday before Afghan and coalition airstrikes turned the tide, Afghan officials said.

Fighting continued outside of the city on Wednesday, but there have been no further airstrikes.

"There is not a single shooting in the city right now," Gen. Mohammad Radmanish, Defense Ministry spokesman, said as of Wednesday morning. "The city is totally cleared and the enemy ran away 8 kilometers far from the city, but our forces are after them."

A Taliban spokesman confirmed that the group had withdrawn but said that the raid had destroyed essential military supplies in the city.

The Taliban assaulted Farah from the west and north on Tuesday, several hours after midnight, Abdul Shakoor, a resident, told Stars and Stripes via phone.

Militants planned to attack prison and police and intelligence headquarters, said Khair Mohammad Noorzai, a member of the Farah provincial council. Their aim, he said, was to capture the city Tuesday night.

The Taliban penetrated the city at 11 a.m. and advanced about a mile into the city center; once inside, they captured and set a police station and several government offices ablaze, Afghan officials said.

On Tuesday, U.S. officials were adamant that the Taliban had not entered the city, citing their aerial surveillance feeds. On Wednesday, a U.S. spokesman said the Taliban might have retreated before the surveillance arrived on the battlefield.

The Afghan military deployed troops, A-29s light-attack planes and Mi-17 helicopter gunships, while coalition forces dispatched A-10 Thunderbolt II ground-attack planes and MQ-9 Reaper drones. U.S. drone strikes killed 28 Taliban fighters, according to coalition spokesmen, as American and multinational advisers assisted Afghanistan's 207th Corps by coordinating between U.S. and Afghan forces.

"The city would have fallen to the Taliban if the air force and additional ground forces hadn't arrived sooner," Noorzai said.

A coalition spokesman said the Afghan air force conducted most of the airstrikes.

"What you saw there in Farah, it's clearly a force to be reckoned with. Their ability to support themselves with their own airpower is something people discredited years ago," Lt. Col. Martin O'Donnell said.

The Kabul government said about 100 Taliban fighters were killed and more than 200 were wounded in the firefight. Eleven



Courtesy of NATO Resolute Support Headquarters

Government forces in Farah repulsed a Taliban attack Tuesday after reinforcement by the Afghanistan National Army's 207th Corps, with the assistance of American and multinational advisers, according to U.S. coalition spokesmen.

government soldiers were killed and 12 were wounded. Local media, however, quoted Farah Gov. Basir Salangi as saying 25 members of the security forces died.

The Taliban claimed that they had killed 63 police officers and that just nine of their own fighters were killed and 11 were wounded.

"The main goal ... to crush the enemy and take their guns, ammunitions and vehicles was accomplished," Taliban spokesman Zabihullah Mujahid said in a message to the media Wednesday.

The attack on Farah was the first on a provincial capital this year. The Taliban now control much of Farah province, which is a key drug route from Taliban-held Helmand province in the south to the Iranian border in the west. Capture of the province would block the region's main highway to Kabul.

The province was the target of

U.S. airstrikes against narcotics facilities in April and Afghan air force strikes against the Taliban in March.

Taliban guerrillas have expanded their hold on many parts of Afghanistan over the past two years.

The Trump administration's

strategy of renewed aggression has led to a dramatic hike in the number of airstrikes. But the strikes have so far had limited success in curbing the Taliban campaign.

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NATHANIEL ALLEN/Courtesy of the U.S. Army

A German soldier takes part in an exercise at the Hohenfels Training Area, Germany, in 2016. German troops are reportedly short on body armor, night vision gear and cold-weather clothing.

Dysfunctional: German capability gaps pile up as July summit approaches

FROM FRONT PAGE

The military dysfunction is likely to re-emerge as a flashpoint between Berlin and Washington when President Donald Trump attends a NATO summit in July.

Berlin's persistent shortcomings and resistance to meeting NATO spending targets is likely to further strain relations with Washington and risks a stand-off that could eventually test the unity of the alliance and the American commitment to it.

Trump, long ambivalent about the value of NATO, remains fixated on Germany as a security free-rider. The alliance "helps them a hell of a lot more than it helps us," Trump said in December.

New German capability gaps have been brought to light in recent weeks, piling on top of old ones that Berlin has failed to fix.

Among the failures: none of Germany's submarines is currently operational, only four of its 128 Eurofighter jets are combat-ready and the army is short dozens of tanks and armored vehicles needed for NATO missions.

In addition, troops are short on the basics: body armor, night vision gear and cold-weather clothing.

The situation is so dire that 19 helicopter pilots from Germany's Bundeswehr were forced to turn in their flight licenses because of a lack of training time.

The reason: not enough helicopters for the pilots to fly.

A low priority

Internal military documents and investigations by German media have cast a spotlight on Berlin's failure to reverse the steady slide in combat readiness, which comes as concerns about a more aggressive Russia increase demand for more agile NATO militaries.

Yet there is little sign that Germany's political leadership will do much, with parliament locked in partisan budget disputes about defense spending.

On Monday, Defense Minister Ursula von der Leyen said she expected military spending to reach 1.5 percent of economic output in 2025, which means that short of a dramatic change, Berlin will renege on a pledge it made to the U.S. and NATO allies in 2014 when members agreed to hit the 2 percent mark within a decade.

German Chancellor Angela Merkel's Christian Democratic Union has historically been the mainstream party that advocates for stronger defense spending. On Monday, Merkel conceded Germany's "credibility" was at stake and that defense expenditures must increase.

Yet Merkel also vowed during last year's election campaign that spending on Germany's welfare state, including a national pension plan, public health care and nursing care, generous unemployment benefits, social welfare and education — would continue to take precedence over the increased military expenditure demanded by Trump.



AMANDA S. KITCHNER/Courtesy of the U.S. Navy

The German submarine U-33 steams in the Atlantic Ocean during exercise Dynamic Mongoose in 2015. None of Germany's submarines are currently operational.



GERTRUD ZACH/Courtesy of the U.S. Army

German Bundeswehr soldiers drive Leopard 2 tanks at Grafenwoehr Training Area in December 2011. German defense ministry documents, obtained by the German newspaper Die Welt, revealed that a brigade slated to deploy on a NATO mission only has nine of 44 Leopard 2 tanks working.

Von der Leyen is requesting a \$14 billion boost over current budget plans. The request is facing resistance from Germany's finance ministry, which has planned a roughly \$6.6 billion increase over four years.

Von der Leyen's office called the current plan "inadequate in view of the huge accumulated needs and required modernization, particularly in the medium term."

While Germany has slowly increased its defense spending in recent years, the \$37 billion budget is only about 1.24 percent of its GDP.

"Germany has the largest economy in Europe, but has been dragging its feet on fixing its scandalous defense problems," Benitez

said. "Part of the problem is political and reflects the willingness of German leaders to consistently inhibit defense spending for the sake of other priorities."

One obstacle to boosting defense spending could be Trump himself. The U.S. president is deeply unpopular in Germany and appearing to kowtow to Trump's demands in the form of ramping up military investment could be politically damaging.

In August, Germany's foreign minister at the time, Sigmar Gabriel, equated answering Trump's spending demands with "kneeling" in submission.

Little demand for a better force

Another aspect of the country's reluctance to ramp up military investment is a broad cultural discomfort with the idea of trying to re-establish itself as a military power, which conjures memories of Germany's defeats in two world wars.

Once home to some of the world's most sophisticated military thinkers — 19th century Prussian Gen. Carl von Clausewitz is still required reading for every American general — the Germany of today tends toward pacifism.

A recent survey in Germany by the Pew Research Center found that 51 percent of those polled want defense spending to hold steady, while 13 percent want cuts. Only 32 percent want to increase spending.

There are also bureaucratic ob-

stacles to increasing military expenditures. The Germany defense budget is the only part of the government where any expenditure of over 25 million euros, or about \$30 million, requires parliamentary approval. Bureaucratic logjams also have hindered defense procurement.

In early 2019, Germany is slated to lead NATO's Very High Readiness Joint Task Force, a 5,000-strong unit designed to deploy within days to potential hotspots in Eastern Europe.

Responsibility for leading the task force rotates among alliance members.

German defense ministry documents, obtained by the German Die Welt newspaper, revealed that the brigade slated to deploy on the NATO mission only has nine of the 44 Leopard 2 tanks and three of the 14 Marder armored personnel carriers that are required.

German defense officials have said they are working to address the shortfalls and said the unit will be ready to lead the NATO task force. But the military's problems run deeper than manning one brigade for a single NATO mission.

"The army's readiness to deploy has not improved in recent years, but instead has gotten even worse," Parliamentary Armed Forces Commissioner Hans-Peter Bartels said in February upon release of an annual report on the state of the armed forces.

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PACIFIC

Nighttime training sparks complaints from residents

BY JAMES BOLINGER
AND HANA KUSUMOTO
Stars and Stripes

SASEBO NAVAL BASE, Japan — More nighttime Navy hovercraft training off Japan's southern coast is sparking noise complaints and fears of collisions with local fishing boats.

The Saikai City-based Naval Beach Unit 7, which operates seven landing craft air cushions, or LCACs, that ferry Marines from ship to shore, began quarterly nighttime training in November.

The drills, which were done during deployments in the past, are happening in Japanese waters so that crews can get enough "flight hours" to stay proficient, said Cmdr. Bob Jones, the unit's leader.

However, locals have complained about noise and safety, citing an agreement made with

Japan's Defense Ministry when Saikai agreed to host the hovercraft in 2013. The agreement asks the Navy not to train after dark.

"Night training affects residents' lives, and it also affects the safety of ships," a Saikai City official said on May 11.

Saikai residents wrote a letter to the Defense Ministry after the first night-training mission, urging the Navy not to continue the operations, the official said.

But Jones said a daytime mission doesn't provide the practice that crews need to operate safely in darkness.

"There is a distinct difference between what you see visually when operating during the day and operating at night," he said.

The Navy sends out notices to let fishermen and residents know when the night operations will happen, he added.

Hovercraft crews give other



JAMES BOLINGER/Stars and Stripes

Sailors assigned to Naval Beach Unit 7 talk aboard a hovercraft inside a dark hangar near Sasebo Naval Base, Japan, on May 10.

vessels a wide berth and leave for the missions during daylight, Jones said. After the sun goes down, sailors are equipped with night-vision goggles.

Extra sets of eyes, including the commander's, watch from behind the driver, engineer and navigator, and the hovercraft travel in pairs so that immediate help is available in an emergency, he said.

Night training happens in the early evening. A May 10 mission returned to port at around 8 p.m.

Recent tests of the noise created by the hovercraft show they are comparable to passing trains, Jones said.

Japan Maritime Self-Defense Force hovercraft train regularly with their American counterparts. The country operates six hovercraft out of Kure Naval

Base in Hiroshima prefecture.

The vessels conduct about 10 nighttime training missions each year, but all take place in the open sea. Landing practice happens in Miyazaki prefecture and can go as late as 8 p.m., but Japanese officials said they weren't aware of any complaints about those missions.

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Piloting a Hovercraft like driving a race car, flying a plane

BY JAMES BOLINGER
Stars and Stripes

SASEBO NAVAL BASE, Japan — Flying a Navy hovercraft requires intense focus, but crews thrive on that pressure, according to one of the sailors who trains them.

The cabin of a landing craft air cushion, or LCAC, looks a lot like the cockpit of a cargo plane, and the controls to fly it are also similar.

The pilot, or "craftmaster," uses rudder-peddles to control the direction of travel and hand controls to move bow thrusters and adjust the pitch of two giant fiberglass propellers.

Petty Officer 1st Class Christopher Marcial, formerly a navigator with the Japan-based Naval Beach Unit 7 who trains hovercraft crews stateside, said the vessels do everything full-size speeds do but at a higher rate of speed. They also can move in six directions, like an aircraft.

"I can't get tunnel vision," he said when describing the pres-



JAMES BOLINGER/Stars and Stripes

A Japan Self-Defense Force hovercraft departs a U.S. naval facility near Sasebo Naval Base, Japan, on May 10.

sure of a mission. "I have to log every turn and change in speed while plotting a course around other boats. People's lives are in your hands, and if I make the wrong decision, I can severely damage the boat."

It takes months to train sailors to fly hovercraft, and the Navy requires them to get quarterly and

annual certifications and maintain a set number of flight hours.

Each hovercraft has a crew of five: the craftmaster, an engineer, a navigator, a loadmaster and a deck engineer. All attend the same technical school and learn to operate the craft as a unit, although the length of schooling for loadmasters and deck engineers

“From that moment on, I knew where I wanted to go. And once I got bit by the bug, it was over.”

George McLain
Chief Petty Officer

is shorter than the eight months required for the other jobs.

It takes weeks to integrate a new crew, and the Navy tries to leave them together as long as possible to build comfort levels, said Chief Petty Officer George McLain, a craftmaster with Naval Beach Unit 7.

McLain compared flying a hovercraft to being a pilot.

"Our jobs are a lot more similar to the aviation side of the house, versus the surface side," he said.

Constant communication is needed to safely operate an LCAC. The headphones that each

crew member wears broadcast two separate lines of communication. One ear listens to internal crew chatter, while the other hears chatter from other boats.

This task is complicated by the reports that each crew member is required to give. They take turns flipping a switch on their headsets that allows them to communicate either internally with the crew or externally with the fleet.

"At the schoolhouse they can teach you to navigate and do the technical aspects of your job, but they can't teach you to multitask," Marcial said.

McLain compared his job to that of a NASCAR driver.

"Flying these boats is an absolute blast," he said, recalling the first time he saw one of the hovercraft skim across the bow of the USS Ronald Reagan a decade ago.

"From that moment on, I knew where I wanted to go," he said. "And once I got bit by the bug, it was over."

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NATION



JACQUELYN MARTIN/AP

Women hold children as they stand in protest of Homeland Security Secretary Kirstjen Nielsen as she testifies to the Senate Homeland Security Committee on Tuesday. The group was protesting a Department of Homeland Security practice of separating families seeking protection at U.S. borders.

HHS is considering housing immigrant children at bases

By LOLITA C. BALDOR
AND ALAN FRAM
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The Health and Human Services Department is considering housing at military bases those children picked up crossing the U.S. border illegally either alone or after being separated from their parents by the government, according to two U.S. officials.

One official said the department is looking at four bases in Texas and Arkansas. The officials discussed the plan Tuesday on condition of anonymity because it has not been made public or made final.

Health and Human Services, which oversees about 100 shelters in 14 states for children who are caught at the border, said in a statement that it routinely evaluates additional locations for temporary housing. It did not elaborate on specific plans.

Health and Human Services takes custody of children who cross the border alone within 48 hours, as well as children who are separated from their families when their parents are charged with crimes or the child's welfare is in doubt.

During a surge in children from Central America in 2014, Health and Human Services temporarily used military bases in California, Oklahoma and Texas to house children.

The Department of Homeland Security has limited space to house families that are kept together — only about 2,700 beds at three family detention centers in Texas and Pennsylvania. In April alone, people who came as families accounted for nearly 10,000 Border Patrol arrests. Another 4,300 were unaccompanied children.

Nearly 1 in 4 Border Patrol ar-

rests on the Mexican border from October through April was someone who came in a family. That means any large increase in prosecutions will likely cause parents to be separated from their children while they face charges and do time in jail.

Homeland Security Secretary Kirstjen Nielsen defended the Trump administration's practice of separating children from parents when the family is being prosecuted for entering the U.S. illegally, telling a Senate committee Tuesday that removing children from parents facing criminal charges happens "in the United States every day."

Nielsen, who has led the agency since December, came under attack from Democratic senators days after Attorney General Jeff Sessions said a "zero tolerance" policy toward people entering the country illegally could lead to more families being split up while parents are prosecuted.

In a contentious exchange with Sen. Kamala Harris, D-Calif., Nielsen said her department was not taking children from parents as a way to deter illegal immigration. Rather, Nielsen said, if a person crosses the border illegally: "We will refer you for prosecution. You've broken U.S. law."

When Harris pressed her about what that would mean for a 4-year-old child whose family faces charges of entering the country illegally, Nielsen said, "What we'll be doing is prosecuting parents who've broken the law, just as we do every day in the United States of America."

The children are transferred to the custody of Health and Human Services within 48 hours, she said. That department then finds people for the children to stay with while the parents are in custody, she said.

"They will be separated from their parent," said Harris, who's considered a possible contender for her party's 2020 presidential nomination.

"Just like we do in the United States every day," Nielsen replied.

But she did not dispute criticism by Sen. Claire McCaskill, D-Mo., that the government could do a better job of monitoring the children it places in a family's custody to make sure they're safe.

"I could not agree with your concerns more, period," Nielsen said.

Nielsen told the Senate Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs Committee that her agency and HHS have procedures aimed at making sure the people caring for the children are not criminals.

"It is our duty to protect them, to keep them in a safe environment," Nielsen said.

DHS has said it would refer all arrests for illegal entry to federal prosecutors, backing up Sessions' policy, announced last month, to expand criminal prosecutions of people with few or no previous offenses. A conviction for illegal entry carries a maximum penalty of six months in custody for first-time crossers — though they usually do far less time — and two years for repeat offenses.

Just last week, President Donald Trump criticized Nielsen at a Cabinet meeting for not doing enough to stop illegal border crossings. He discounted her explanation that her department faces legal restrictions on what it can do, according to people familiar with the exchange.

The agency has denied a report by The New York Times that the confrontation left Nielsen close to resigning.

Liberal senator offers stricter war-powers bill

By SEUNG MIN KIM
The Washington Post

WASHINGTON — A liberal liberal Senate Democrat is drafting a measure that would sharply constrain White House power to wage military action abroad as senators prepare for a full-fledged debate over war authorization.

Oregon Sen. Jeff Merkley wants to present a more restrictive alternative to legislation — written by Senate Foreign Relations Committee Chairman Bob Corker, R-Tenn., and Sen. Tim Kaine, D-Va. — that envisions handing much of the war-making powers back to Congress after years of ceding it to the executive branch.

Writing a new authorization of the use of military force on Capitol Hill has, for several years, been a quixotic effort limited to the likes of Kaine and opposed by congressional Republicans. Meanwhile, three presidential administrations have operated under a pair of measures known as Authorization for Use of Military Force — or AUMFs — passed after the Sept. 11, 2001, attacks. Critics, however, say the AUMFs have been stretched to rationalize military actions that have never been specifically sanctioned by Congress.

"It's too big of an issue in terms of the lives of our citizens and our treasury to leave that to one person," Merkley said in an interview. "It should be difficult to decide to go to war. And that means that Congress needs to act."

Merkley's proposal, detailed to The Washington Post in advance of its release, has several key differences from the Corker-Kaine measure unveiled last month that helped break a deadlock in the debate over war powers on Capitol Hill.

One is that Merkley explicitly writes in a five-year time limit, or a sunset, to the war authorization expires and lawmakers are forced to revisit the issue. Republicans have opposed the idea of a sunset, and the Corker-Kaine measure aims to strike a balance by requiring the administration to submit a new report every four years, although the current war powers would stay intact if Congress didn't act.

Merkley's legislation only authorizes military action against al-Qaida, the Taliban and Islamic State, a new report every four years, although the current war powers would stay intact if Congress didn't act.

Merkley's legislation also authorizes use of force against "associated forces" that include al-Qaida in the Arabian Peninsula, al-Shabab, a militant faction in East Africa, al-Qaida in Syria, the Pakistan-based Haqqani Net-

'It should be difficult to decide to go to war. And that means that Congress needs to act.'

Sen. Jeff Merkley
D-Ore.

work, and al-Qaida in the Islamic Mahgreb in North Africa. It allows for U.S. military operations in three additional countries: Somalia, Yemen and Libya.

Merkley, who joined the Senate Foreign Relations Committee last year, emphasized that his legislation is meant to greenlight military action against just the "associated organizations" targeted by the 2001 and 2002 war authorizations.

But "all the other actions, the president needs to come and ask Congress to open the door," the second-term senator added.

That also includes the use of ground troops. Under Merkley's bill, the president would be required to alert Congress within 48 hours of introducing ground troops, who would be allowed to remain only if lawmakers approved.

Several committee members in both parties have lined up behind Corker and Kaine's measure, including Sens. Chris Coons, D-Del.; Jeff Flake, R-Ariz.; and Todd Young, R-Ind. Even so, Kaine, who has tried for years to force Congress to reassert its role in authorizing military action, is bracing for the opposition.

During a committee meeting last month when senators discussed the broad contours of Corker and Kaine's proposal, at least three members expressed "significant" discomfort with the basic framework" of the AUMF, Merkley said. At least one was a Republican.

"The White House generally thinks it's too restrictive, and the left ... thinks it's not restrictive enough," Kaine said. "It imposes significantly more constraint on the ongoing effort against non-state terrorist groups than the current status quo, but people have to decide whether that's enough for them."

The Senate Foreign Relations Committee is scheduled to hear testimony from experts later Wednesday on Corker and Kaine's war authorization measure. The actual markup of the AUMF in the committee won't occur until after the Memorial Day recess, aides say.

NATION

Senate panel backs CIA pick, confirmation likely

By DEB RIECHMANN
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Gina Haspel, President Donald Trump's nominee to head the CIA, won the backing of the Senate intelligence committee Wednesday, paving the way for her expected confirmation to lead the spy agency.

The panel voted 10-5 to advise the full Senate to confirm Haspel, whose nomination has renewed debate over the harsh interrogation program the CIA conducted on terror suspects after 9/11. She has told Congress that the agency shouldn't have used those harsh tactics and has vowed not to restart them.

The committee released the result of the vote that was conducted in closed session without giving further details. How-

ever, all eight Republicans and two of the seven Democrats on the panel earlier expressed support for Haspel. The remaining five Democrats had announced their opposition.

The confirmation vote by the full Senate could occur before the end of the week.

The interrogation program became one of the darkest chapters of the CIA's history and tainted America's image worldwide after the Sept. 11 attacks. Critics opposed Haspel's nomination in part because of her role supervising a secret CIA detention site in Thailand for several months in 2002.

Haspel has not disclosed any details of what she did in connection with the interrogation program or say whether she thought it had been immoral.

But during her confirmation hearing last week, she said she doesn't believe torture

works as an interrogation technique and that her "strong moral compass" would prevent her from carrying out any presidential order she found objectionable.

"With the benefit of hindsight and my experience as a senior agency leader, the enhanced interrogation program is not one the CIA should have undertaken," according to Haspel's written answers to some 60 additional questions from lawmakers.

Bolstering the comments she made during her hearing, Haspel wrote, "I do not support use of enhanced interrogation techniques for any purpose."

Attention now turns to the vote by the full Senate, which has not yet been scheduled. Haspel has already won the backing of several Democrats. They include Mark Warner of Virginia, Joe Manchin of West Virginia, Joe Donnelly of Indiana, Bill

Nelson of Florida and Heidi Heitkamp of North Dakota. The only Senate Republicans who are not expected to vote for her are Kentucky's Rand Paul and Arizona's John McCain, who is battling cancer and is not expected to be present for the ballot.

Haspel's opponents, however, continue to weigh into the debate.

"Ms. Haspel is cynically trying to offer mere words in an attempt to win votes to support her confirmation," said Gen. Charles Krulak, former commandant of the Marine Corps.

"The definition of moral courage is doing the right thing at the right time for the right reasons when no one's looking. Gina Haspel failed that test," said Krulak, who organized a letter signed by more than 100 retired generals and admirals expressing concern over her nomination.

Stormy Daniels' crowdfunding raises transparency questions

By MICHAEL BALSAMO
Associated Press

LOS ANGELES — Stormy Daniels has raised nearly a half-million dollars to fund her lawsuit against President Donald Trump, relying on contributions from a crowdfunding site. Her lawyer has repeatedly pointed to the public site as evidence that he and his client aren't bankrolled by Trump's political foes.

But the truth is, no one knows precisely who is funding the effort.

The more than 14,000 donations have been made mostly anonymously in amounts ranging from \$10 to \$5,000. Through Monday, Daniels, whose real name is Stephanie Clifford, and her attorney, Michael Avenatti, raised more than \$490,000 on CrowdJustice.com, a crowdfunding site dedicated to helping people raise money for legal fees. About \$100,000 arrived in the last week after Avenatti released doc-

uments about payments Trump's personal lawyer, Michael Cohen, received from private companies seeking information about the president's beliefs on various issues.

The target for donations is \$850,000, which Avenatti called a "realistic and reasonable target based on what we know right now."

Jessica Levinson, a professor at Loyola Law School, said it's unusual but "not totally unheard of" for a lawyer to seek online donations to cover legal costs.

"It does bring up some ethical concerns in terms of who is actually giving this money and whether they will try to exert influence," said Levinson, who also is president of the Los Angeles City Ethics Commission.

CrowdJustice.com donors can choose whether to share their names with the person seeking funds. The site displays donations with either a first name or as anonymous donor.

Kathleen Clark, a professor of ethics law at Washington University, echoed Levinson's concern.

The anonymous donations can be "fodder for public debate on who is actually backing this lawsuit," Clark said.

Levinson said as long as Avenatti doesn't change his legal strategy because of the payments, there isn't an inherent ethical issue.

Avenatti has bristled at claims from some Trump supporters that his pay for work on the case comes from an organized effort to oust Trump.

"We have no ethical concerns whatsoever," Avenatti told The Associated Press. "I find this fascination with who is paying my client's legal bills to have passed the line of absurdity at this point. We have been very, very clear when answering these questions. Who is paying Mr. Trump's and Mr. Cohen's legal bills? Do we know?"



CRAIG RUTLICK/AP

Adult film actress Stormy Daniels and her attorney Michael Avenatti have raised more than \$490,000 on the website CrowdJustice.com.

While federal election law limits the amount of money individuals can donate to campaigns, political action committees and national political party committees, no such rules apply for donations for legal cases, such as the Daniels case. In theory, someone could donate as much money as they wanted as many times and they want, which can't be done with political donations.

Judge: Mueller had authority to prosecute Manafort

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — A federal judge in Washington ruled Tuesday that special counsel Robert Mueller was working within his authority when he brought charges against President Donald Trump's former campaign chairman.

The decision was a setback for Paul Manafort in his defense against charges of money-laundering conspiracy, false statements and acting as an unregistered foreign agent. Manafort had argued that Mueller had exceeded his authority because the case was unrelated to Russian election interference.

But U.S. District Judge Amy Berman Jackson disagreed, sid-

ing with prosecutors who had produced an August 2017 memo from Deputy Attorney General Rod Rosenstein. The memo shows Rosenstein authorized Mueller to investigate Manafort's Ukrainian work and related financial crimes.

Jackson had previously thrown out a civil case Manafort brought challenging Mueller's authority. Peter Carr, a spokesman for the special counsel's office, declined to comment.

The decision allows one of two criminal cases against Manafort to proceed.

In addition to the Washington indictment, Manafort also faces charges in Virginia of bank fraud and tax evasion.

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NATION

Trump's Senate picks prevail in primaries

BY ASHLEY THOMAS
AND MARC LEVY
Associated Press

President Donald Trump backed two successful U.S. Senate nominees in Pennsylvania and Nebraska, which were among four states holding primaries Tuesday.

The primaries began to settle swing state Pennsylvania's chaotic congressional landscape after a court fight ended with redrawn districts just three months ago. Amid the redistricting, Republican Rick Saccone recorded his second loss in two months in two U.S. House districts.

Among the more unusual results of Tuesday's primaries was the loss by Pennsylvania's Democratic lieutenant governor, Mike Stack, who was ousted by mayor John Fetterman.

Oregon and Idaho also held primary elections.

Here's a look at some of the other interesting races:

■ **Trump's picks prevail:** Two of the president's favored candidates, Lou Barletta in Pennsylvania and Deb Fischer in Nebraska, won their U.S. Senate primaries.

Barletta, currently a congressman, was heavily favored over state Rep. Jim Christiana to become the Republican challenger for Democratic Sen. Bob Casey, who is seeking a third term in November.

Barletta was a Trump supporter before the 2016 presidential nomination was settled. Trump asked Barletta to run for Senate, and the president is expected to visit Pennsylvania to campaign for him. The president also recorded telephone calls last weekend backing Barletta "fully, strongly and proudly."

Fischer, the incumbent, defeated four GOP challengers and will be the strong favorite to win re-election in deep-red Nebraska. Her Democratic opponent is Lincoln City Councilwoman Jane Raybould.

Last week, Trump urged GOP Senate primary voters to support Rep. Jim Renacci in the Ohio Senate and oppose former coal company executive Don Blankenship in West Virginia. Renacci won and Blankenship lost.

■ **Women rule in redrawn districts:** Pennsylvania could send at least three women to Congress next year, breaking the all-male hold on the state's 18-member U.S. House delegation.

Mary Gary Scanlon won a 10-way Demo-



NATI HARNIK/AP

Democratic 2nd District House candidate Kara Eastman smiles in Omaha, Neb., on Tuesday. Eastman defeated former Rep. Brad Ashford in Tuesday's primary.

cratic primary and Madeleine Dean won a three-way Democratic primary on Tuesday night for two suburban Philadelphia seats that are likely to flip to Democrats following a court-ordered redrawing of the state's congressional district boundaries.

Meanwhile, Chrissy Houlahan is the uncontested Democratic nominee for another suburban Philadelphia seat where she's heavily favored in November.

Women won contested Democratic primaries in three other seats in Pennsylvania, although two of those seats are in solidly Republican districts and another is considered a toss-up in November.

■ **Incumbent lieutenant governor falls:** Mike Stack became the first holder of the Pennsylvania lieutenant governor's office to lose in a primary election.

John Fetterman, the Braddock mayor, won the five-way Democratic Party primary race for lieutenant governor Tuesday, meaning he will run on a ticket with Gov. Tom Wolf in the fall. Pennsylvania first started allowing lieutenant governors to serve a second term in the 1970s.

Fetterman had made a failed bid in 2016 for the U.S. Senate.

Stack, a former Philadelphia state senator, has had a chilly relationship with Wolf in their first term together.



MATT SLOCUM/AP

U.S. Rep. Lou Barletta, R-Pa., one of President Donald Trump's favored candidates, won the Republican nomination for U.S. Senate in Pennsylvania on Tuesday.

Wolf last year ordered an investigation into the treatment of state employees by Stack and his wife and stripped Stack of state police protection.

■ **Second loss in two months for Saccone:** Pennsylvania state Rep. Rick Saccone, who lost a special election two months ago to Democrat Conor Lamb for a congressional seat, has now lost a two-way Republican primary for a different U.S. House seat.

Saccone lost Tuesday's 14th Congressional District primary election to state Sen. Guy Reschenthaler for the open seat in a heavily Republican, newly drawn district.

In March, Lamb narrowly beat Saccone in a district that President Donald Trump won in 2016 by about 20 percentage points. The president campaigned in the district twice and sent several tweets on Saccone's behalf. The White House later contended that it was Lamb who had embraced the president's policies and vision.

■ **Political newcomer wins in Nebraska:** Social worker and political newcomer Kara Eastman won the Democratic nomination for Nebraska's 2nd Congressional District.

Eastman defeated former Rep. Brad Ashford in Tuesday's primary election with a campaign that cast her as a champion of liberal ideals, including supporting a single-payer health care system.

Eastman contrasted herself against Ashford, a centrist and former Republican who focused on his legislative experience and willingness to work with conservatives.

She will now face Rep. Don Bacon, a first-term Republican who defeated Ashford in the 2016 election.

Ashford had been the first Democrat in two decades to win the district, which encompasses much of the Omaha metro area.

Although Omaha's strong Democratic core is balanced out by more conservative suburbs, the district gives Democrats a fighting chance of capturing a congressional seat in a state that is otherwise overwhelmingly Republican.

■ **Oregon chooses GOP candidate among 10 gubernatorial hopefuls:** State Rep. Knute Buehler has emerged from a crowded primary to capture the Republican nomination for Oregon governor.

Buehler, who ran for secretary of state in 2012, was the most centrist of the Republican front-runners. He was among 10 GOP candidates in the primary.

However, Democratic Gov. Kate Brown remains the favorite to win in November. Brown became governor in 2015 upon the resignation of Gov. John Kitzhaber following an ethics scandal, and she won a special election in 2016.

■ **In Idaho governor's race, a Democrat is first:** When former state Rep. Paulette Jordan, 38, won her primary, she became the first woman to be the Democratic gubernatorial nominee in Idaho. If she wins the general election, Jordan, a member of the Coeur d'Alene Tribe, would not only be the first woman to serve as Idaho governor but also the first Native American woman to serve in that position in any state.

But she faces a difficult race: Idaho hasn't elected a Democratic governor since 1990, and the Republican Party now controls a supermajority on all federal, state and legislative seats.

Li Gov. Brad Little, 64, a rancher who has spent the past 16 years in elected office, secured the GOP nomination. He's the pick of Republican Gov. C.L. "Butch" Otter, who decided not to seek a fourth term.

Ex-CIA employee in leak probe may face espionage charges

BY DEB RIECHMANN
AND LARRY NEUMEISTER
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — A former CIA employee is "deeply saddened" that he may face espionage charges in the government's pursuit of a massive leak of cyber hacking tools, his lawyer says.

Joshua Adam Schulte, 29, already held without bail in Manhattan on child pornography charges, learned last Friday during a New York court appearance that additional charges were likely to be filed against him in about 45 days from what Assistant U.S. Attorney Matthew Laroche said was a "broader investigation" unrelated to the pornography case.

"Mr. Schulte has spent years working

to ensure the safety of his country and is deeply saddened to hear that he could face charges of espionage," assistant federal defender Sabrina Shroff said Tuesday in response to a request for comment.

Laroche had told U.S. District Judge Paul A. Crotty that the new charges were unlikely for several weeks.

The cryptic description at Friday's hearing led Shroff, who entered the case in March, to demand more.

"Are they secret charges that I'm not allowed to know about? What are these charges?" Shroff asked, saying she wanted to know of possible charges, whether they be sedition or something else. "Are they charging him with espionage?"

Laroche said it involved an ongoing grand jury investigation and added, "I

don't think we have an obligation to disclose it at this time, but we certainly have had discussions with Ms. Shroff about the nature of the underlying investigation."

At a January hearing, Laroche said Schulte was a target of an ongoing investigation into the theft of tools that were used by the CIA to spy overseas. No charges have been filed against Schulte in that investigation, and his defense lawyers have insisted he was not involved.

Schulte's name was first reported Tuesday by The Washington Post.

The CIA declined comment.

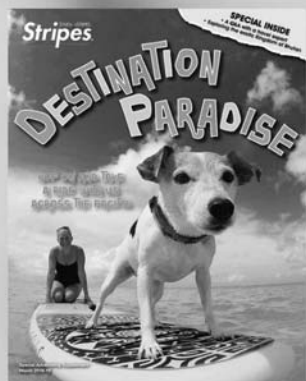
WikiLeaks began releasing some of the CIA's hacking tools in March 2017. The U.S. government has all but publicly acknowledged the embarrassing leak from the CIA's Center for Cyber Intelligence.

At January's hearing, Laroche said the material was taken from the CIA during the more than six years that Schulte worked for the agency in various positions, including technical development officer.

"The government immediately had enough evidence to establish that he was a target of that investigation," Laroche said. "They conducted a number of search warrants on the defendant's residence."

Laroche said he disagreed with Schulte's lawyer at the time, who claimed the search warrants had not yielded anything consistent with the material released by WikiLeaks. "In fact, our investigation is ongoing," Laroche said. "He remains a target of that investigation."

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OPINION

Does Trump or Netanyahu have a Plan B?

By TRUDY RUBIN

The Philadelphia Inquirer

“Jerusalem celebrates ... and Gaza bleeds – a surreal 24 hours,” read the headline in the Israeli newspaper Haaretz.

Indeed, there was something surreal about scenes of the celebration of the U.S. Embassy's move from Tel Aviv to Jerusalem, headed by first son-in-law Jared Kushner and Ivanka Trump, simultaneously with the Gaza carnage – where tens of thousands of Palestinians marched on the fence separating them from Israel and 60 were shot dead.

By surreal, I'm not just referring to the blessing of the ceremony by two U.S. evangelical pastors, John Hagee and Robert Jeffress, who have preached that Adolf Hitler was part of God's plan and that Jews will go to hell unless they convert.

The most surreal element was the willful blindness of Donald Trump in deciding, in order to please his evangelical base, to move the embassy now. The decision ensured that Kushner's long-awaited plan for Israel-Palestinian peace was dead before arrival. It also reinforced the Israeli government's shortsighted failure to address a worsening humanitarian crisis in Gaza, which practically guaranteed that Monday's bloodshed would occur.

There was good reason why previous U.S. presidents chose not to move the U.S. Embassy to Jerusalem. No one questions the location of Israel's historic capital in Jerusalem, which has been holy to Jews for millennia. But at least 38 percent of Jerusalem's population is Palestinian, as are whole neighborhoods in East Jerusalem.

The fate of Jerusalem has always been the most sensitive issue in peace talks. When the United Nations recognized Israel in 1948, it gave Jerusalem a special status, every peace plan since has called for negotiations over the final status of the city — meaning Arab neighborhoods in East

Jerusalem would become the Palestinian capital, and the two sides would work out control of the holy sites.

By unilaterally changing this formula, Trump doomed future peace negotiations. Despite White House claims that the embassy move doesn't preclude talks over Jerusalem's boundaries, the Israeli government and right-wing parliamentarians are moving to ensure that the entire city remains in Israel's hands.

Leaks of the Kushner plan indicate that it calls for a Palestinian “capital” to be located in a West Bank suburb; Trump has said that Jerusalem is now “off the table” for talks. This is why the Palestinian Authority now refuses to accept the United States as a peace mediator.

“When you have zero hope, it makes the atmosphere more conducive to violence,” says Israeli lawyer Danny Seidemann, a renowned expert on Jerusalem and founder of Terrestrial Jerusalem, an NGO that works toward resolving the Jerusalem question.

Standing with Seidemann on Mount Scopus, looking over the city, during a recent visit I saw how a ring of Jewish suburbs built around its perimeter has almost cut off Jerusalem from the Palestinian West Bank. I also saw how small enclaves of radical Jewish settlers, some funded by right-wing U.S. groups, are moving into Arab neighborhoods and aggressively trying to expand their presence at the expense of Arab residents.

“Jerusalem is more contested than ever before,” Seidemann told me. “We are in an acute state of disequilibrium, which can only correct itself with political progress (on renewed peace talks) or an outbreak of violence.”

The embassy move may please some Trump backers (mega-donor and right-wing Jewish activist Sheldon Adelson was at the dedication). But it means that Israeli-Palestinian tensions will grow worse.

Which brings us to Gaza. Trump's un-

questioning embrace of Benjamin Netanyahu seems to have bolstered Netanyahu's indifference to Gaza. How else to explain the Israeli leader's failure to take any action to prevent the bloodbath this week, which was widely expected?

The White House and Kushner blamed the violence entirely on Hamas, the political movement that controls the strip and encouraged the demonstrations. But this tiny strip, around 5 by 25 miles in size and crammed with 1.8 million people, is blockaded by Israel. Its borders and exits into Israel (and one to Egypt) are shut tight, which means no exports and no work. Unemployment is around 60 percent, electricity sporadic, and 90 percent of the drinking water is not potable. Under such circumstances, with all hope of peace talks gone, why wouldn't young men rush the security fence?

Proposals to ease the humanitarian disaster in Gaza have been rejected in Jerusalem. “Netanyahu has resisted all suggestions by the defense establishment for changes in the (Gaza) status quo,” I was told by Nimrod Novik, a leader of Commanders for Israel's Security (a network of 280 retired Israeli generals) and a fellow of the Israel Policy Forum. “He is concerned that his opposition on the right will seize on it to brand him ‘soft on Hamas.’”

In other words, Netanyahu's domestic politics in Israel plus Trump's domestic politics have created a situation where more Palestinian violence is almost certain. Gaza conditions are dismal, and Palestinians see no hope for improvement.

At the Jerusalem ceremony, Kushner said the move would start “a journey to peace.” He added, “The United States is prepared to support a peace agreement in every way we can.” Given the realities in Jerusalem and Gaza, both statements were surreal.

Trudy Rubin is a columnist and editorial-board member for The Philadelphia Inquirer.

Are new college grads ‘capable and cultivated’?

By JAY AMBROSE

Tribune News Service

It's college commencement time, and the question is the future of the graduates, whether we will have “capable and cultivated human beings” making this a better America, or something else. The quoted words are from the 19th-century philosopher John Stuart Mill in a graduation address he made, and my worry has to do with postmodernist campus leftism.

I ran across the quote in a Weekly Standard article by the humorist Pat Benkevitiz of the Hoover Institution. While he discusses other higher ed subjects — such as the obvious erosion of free speech and how due process disappears when a male student is accused of sexual assault — he also talks about curriculum defeat. It increasingly leaves out “the history of literature, philosophy, religion, politics and war,” he observes.

What curricula do focus on, says the journalist Jonah Goldberg, is identity politics. In his new book, “Suicide of the West,” he points out that Yale offers “at least 26 courses on African-American studies, 64 courses on ‘race,’ 10 on ‘gender,’ and 41 courses under the heading ‘Women's Gender and Sexuality Studies.’” He says he found just two courses on the Constitution.

One of the most disgusting outrages of late was at Reed College in Portland, Ore., where students called themselves Reedies Against Racism took on a yearlong,

freshman course that has been around for years. It is Humanities 110, which, with a number of different lectures, focused on ancient texts of the Greek and Roman civilizations, Mesopotamia, Persia and the Judeo-Christian tradition. In smaller classes, we're told by The Wall Street Journal, students engage with each other about the readings and say about truth, justice, virtue, beauty and freedom.

It turns out that this exercise is oppressive, Eurocentric and, well, you know, repulsively focused on the West and supremacist white people, even though it is reported there are plenty of classes that deal with other cultural groups. The protesters weren't shy. They broke up lectures. They grabbed microphones. They shouted down professors, causing at least one woman fearful anxiety. These obnoxious, ignorant, mean-spirited and bigoted young people did get punished, although the school's reaction to the protesting was headed in that direction anyway.

Humanities courses have become less and less a thing in our universities and tests have shown a majority of students and even graduates not knowing what high school students should know about American history for instance. On top of that, there's grade inflation easing pressure on students immersed in a social culture that says smoke that pot and drink that booze, and get it that homework is not nearly as exciting as what can be found in the back seat of a car.

We know, too, that diversity is hugely important in higher education in every-

thing except mentalities of professors. Something like 80 to 90 percent of them are Democrats because, as a couple have explained to me, conservatives are dumb. One wonders whether the ideological cocoon has something to do with surveys showing something like half of all millennials today consider themselves socialists, although they are apparently uneducated in exactly what socialism is.

Meanwhile, governmental student loans have made tuition costs prohibitive to the point of run for the hills, unless there is help from scholarships. What's more, finding and keeping jobs afterward is not what it used to be. The issue just maybe is not too little emphasis on skills courses, such as business management, but on students not living up to what was once expected from the college education.

Look, excellence persists in higher education and only a minority of students usually go haywire. But unmistakable trends are not to be ignored, and what we want from colleges is not just people more prepared for the work world, but prepared for life in all its challenges. This brings us back to the capabilities and cultivation Mill spoke of, the enlightened acquisition of critical thought, discernment, the capacity for depth, intellectual sophistication, broad-based knowledge and understanding, a morally curious frame of mind.

It's hard to get there without the humanities and lessened leftism.

Jay Ambrose is an op-ed columnist for Tribune News Service.

OPINION

Russia's hooligan subculture tarnishes tourney

By JULES BOYKOFF

Special to the Los Angeles Times

The World Cup opens in Moscow in a month, an 11-city, four-week chanting, flag-waving showcase for the world's most popular sport and, this time around, for Vladimir Putin's Russia.

Conventional wisdom has it that with Putin in charge, the World Cup was inaugurated again last week for a fourth term), the quadrennial world soccer championships will run like clockwork. Back in 2013, Jerome Valcke, then secretary-general of FIFA, soccer's international governing body, said as much: "I will say something which is crazy, but less democracy is sometimes better for organizing a World Cup. ... When you have a very strong head of state who can decide, as maybe Putin can do in 2018 ... that is easier for organizers."

Putin's Russia may have seemed like an ideal venue to Valcke, but it's not so ideal to many other observers. Russia harbors a violent soccer hooligan subculture that reflects a toxic mix of "isms." Racism is rampant, along with anti-Semitism. Homophobia is written into federal law. A 2013 statute banning "homosexual propaganda" aimed at minors. Putin's political opponents are routinely beaten and arrested.

Instead of what FIFA says its championships promote — the integrity of "football" — there's every chance the Russia World Cup will display its host country's ugliest side: bigotry, xenophobia, ultranationalism.

Of course, FIFA says nothing of the kind will happen. Russia's soccer governing body, the Russian Football Union, has even hired an anti-racismist, "integrity" Alexei Smertin. Smertin, for example, has assured the world that rainbow flags could be unfurled in stadiums without penalty.

But he also seems to think there is little reason for his job to exist: "There's no racism in Russia," he told the BBC, "because it doesn't exist. Racism in Russia is like



DMITRY SEREBYAKOV/AP

Luzhniki stadium in Moscow will host the 2018 World Cup final.

fashion. ... It comes from abroad, from different countries. It was never, ever here before. Ten years ago, some fans may have given a banana to black guys — it was just for fun."

Except the "fun" has never stopped. Last month, two of Russia's soccer teams, including its national champion club Spartak Moscow, were penalized because their fans were bellowing monkey chants at black players and chanting Nazi slogans. In March, at an exhibition match between Russia and France in St. Petersburg, fans also directed monkey noises at French players Paris Pogba and Ousmane Dembélé.

Spartak Moscow was forced to play its next game to partly empty stands, and FIFA levied a relatively meager fine of \$30,000 against the Russian Football Union in April. For his part, Smertin sounded miffed. Bad relations between the West and Moscow were causing undue attention

to a problem all nations have, he said. "We cannot fail to take the political situation into account."

The London-based anti-discrimination group Fare Network (formerly Football Against Racism in Europe) documents hooliganism. Piara Powar, Fare's executive director, cites the far-right's "long history of violent activism" in Russian football fan groups, and Fare documented 89 incidents at Russian games in the 2016-17 season, mostly in the form of coded bigotry: clothing and banners adorned with the neo-Nazi numerical symbol 88, the Celtic cross, runes, or the SS slogan "My honor is loyalty."

The incident involving France was no anomaly. In 2017, European football administrators punished the Russian club Zenit St. Petersburg because its fans flew a banner celebrating Ratko Mladic, the Bosnian Serb convicted of war crimes. Ahead of a

Confederations Cup match between Cameroon and Germany held in Sochi, Russia, the same year, locals painted their faces black and marched through the streets.

For World Cup fans, the Fare Network is issuing a guide that suggests that black and ethnic minorities exercise caution while they are in Russia. If gay fans walk down the street holding hands, Powar says, they may face danger depending on the city they are in and the time of day. "Gay people have a place in Russia which is quite hidden and underground," Powar pointed out.

Earlier this month, the Guardian reported that pro-Kremlin Cossack militia members would be policing World Cup venues "to ensure public safety." Also this month, Cossack troops attacked activists at an anti-Putin demonstration in Moscow before his inauguration. In 2014, they were photographed whipping members of the political art collective Pussy Riot at a protest during the Sochi Olympics.

It wasn't until 2017 that FIFA adopted a human rights policy. Its principles won't apply to World Cup bidding until 2026, conveniently sidestepping the Russia event and the next World Cup, in human-rights-challenged Qatar.

Last fall, Minky Worden of Human Rights Watch characterized FIFA's new policies and newly published reports on human rights as long overdue. "FIFA's publications are piling up," she wrote, "but the human rights progress is not."

Fare points out that racism, anti-Semitism, Islamophobia and nationalism are on the rise globally, and we shouldn't be surprised to see that in soccer fans. This is perhaps especially true in Russia. All the while, FIFA has been working to combat any violence or bigotry that does occur. It shouldn't have awarded Moscow the World Cup in the first place.

Jules Boykoff, a former professional and national team soccer player, is a professor of politics and government at Pacific University in Oregon.

Fraternities are reckless when there's no oversight

By JIM PIAZZA

Special to The Philadelphia Inquirer

Should fraternities be abolished? This is a question I have often asked myself in the 15 months since my son Tim died at the hands of his future fraternity "brothers" in an out-of-control, alcohol-infused hazing event at Pennsylvania State University.

My initial reaction: Yes, they should all be gone.

However, as time has passed and I've thought about it more, I now realize this is not a question I can should answer if is a question fraternities must answer for themselves.

One thing I can say for sure, after 15 months of learning about fraternities, is that we need to see significant reform of the Greek system in this country. Many of the leaders of the national fraternities and sororities that I have met with and spoken to agree that we are at a critical juncture when it comes to keeping our students safe.

Fraternity misconduct, hazing, sexual assault and student deaths have become national news and the topic of conversation at the family dinner table.

Our son's face, and the faces of other young men whose lives were lost to a similar fate, are recognizable ... for all the wrong reasons. We need reform. What happened in 2017 must never happen again.

First, universities need to take ownership and exercise more control over what

The national fraternities need to institute rules, policies and procedures that will eliminate unsafe behavior.

goes on at fraternities. They can no longer allow student self-governance, nor can they claim that fraternities are private organizations that they cannot govern. We now know that is not true, as is evidenced by what happened to my son at Penn State. I give credit to Eric Barron, the president of Penn State, for taking this issue on at Penn State and nationally. He has made significant changes to Greek life policies and oversight at Penn State and has also assembled presidents of other large universities to address the problems. There is still much to do, but someone needed to step up and he did. Others need to follow.

Ultimately, universities need to take responsibility for reform. They promise parents a safe learning environment for their children and by allowing Greek organizations to run out of control, they are failing to keep that promise. Our children deserve better.

However, universities cannot do it alone. They need the help of national fraternities, whose job it is to oversee campus chapters. The national fraternities need to cooperate with the universities and provide greater oversight and education to their local chapters. They cannot allow them to sensationalize and promote the party scene. That's not what brotherhood is about. They need

to promote the real benefits of a fraternal environment, such as networking. The national fraternities need to institute rules, policies and procedures that will eliminate unsafe behavior. Then they need to monitor and strictly enforce them. If the chapters want the privilege of the national affiliation and the use of the national letters, they must play by the rules or go away.

Finally, the legal system also has a critical role in this reform. Hazing, sexual-assault and drinking laws throughout the country need to be stiffened and should be a meaningful deterrent to individuals engaging in this criminal and unsafe behavior. One such law is the proposed Timothy J. Piazza Anti-Hazing Law in Pennsylvania. Prosecutors need to understand the laws, take them seriously, and not be afraid to prosecute offenders (a special thanks to Pennsylvania Attorney General Josh Shapiro, who is such a prosecutor). Judges and juries must also be willing to hold the offenders accountable and not let them walk away with a slap on the wrist. This reckless behavior will continue if there are no meaningful consequences.

We also need laws that promote greater transparency of which fraternities violate the rules, so parents and students can make better-educated decisions about join-

ing these organizations.

What happened to Tim should never have happened. It was planned and orchestrated alcohol-infused chaos, which had been going on for years without adequate oversight. I have come to learn that I am a member of an unenviable club of parents who lost children to fraternity hazing. Sadly, our club has way more members than I would have ever imagined, and even more disheartening is that our membership grew after Tim's death. I suspect that there are more members than we even know about. The public only hears when someone dies from one of these situations, but over the last 15 months I have learned of countless situations where trusting students are severely hurt or have near-death experiences from hazing or are sexually assaulted and no one outside the "brotherhood" ever knows. Those victims are nameless and faceless.

Should fraternities be abolished? That's not my call — but I am interested to see how the universities, national fraternities, lawmakers and the criminal justice system respond. I cannot imagine any one of them is a proponent of children dying. Now is the time to stand up and show it.

Jim Piazza is the father of Tim Piazza, who died as a result of a fraternity hazing event in February 2017. Jim and his wife, Evelyn, are natives of New Jersey and have become anti-hazing advocates since their son's passing. In that role, they are working with universities and national fraternities to make Greek life safer.

NATION



Darryl De Sousa

Baltimore police chief resigns

Associated Press

BALTIMORE — When Baltimore's mayor hand-picked Darryl De Sousa for police commissioner, heralding his experience and the respect he commanded in the city's force, he proudly described himself as a chess player who uses strategic thinking to avoid pitfalls. Now just a few months later, De Sousa is out of the game, resigning in embarrassment for failing to file his taxes, a key test of Adult-hood 101.

De Sousa's path from the corner office to the revolving door was speedy, even for a city accustomed to leadership instability in a scandal-plagued police force. De Sousa resigned on Tuesday, less than four months into the job, after being charged with failing to file three years of taxes.

Tuesday also was the deadline federal prosecutors gave the city for producing years of De Sousa's financial records.

Rising through the Baltimore force's ranks since the 1980s, De Sousa was the third commissioner in three years and the ninth since 2000. His downfall was a blow to Mayor Catherine Pugh and the City Council, which nearly unanimously authorized his promotion in February.

"Law enforcement needs to follow the law. It is critically important that the citizens of Baltimore have complete faith in their police department. I am deeply disappointed by Mr. De Sousa's actions that leave us in this place," City Councilman Zeke Cohen said.

Pugh had portrayed her choice of the veteran police commander as the right person to lead the force as the violent crime rate continued to soar. She said his resignation shouldn't derail the department's recent successes, and she's already begun a national search to find his successor.

In the meantime, the force is being led by Deputy Commissioner Gary Tuggle. He was named as acting leader Friday.

The U.S. Attorney's office announced last week that De Sousa "willfully failed to file a federal return for tax years 2013, 2014, and 2015, despite having been a salaried employee of the Baltimore Police Department in each of those years."

If proven, each of three misdemeanor counts carried up to one year in prison and a \$25,000 fine.

Lawsuit challenges Iowa abortion law

By BARBARA RODRIGUEZ
Associated Press

DES MOINES, Iowa — A lawsuit challenging the nation's most restrictive abortion law was filed Tuesday in Iowa, a state that for years was largely left out of Republican efforts to overturn abortion protections and where the Democratic attorney general has refused to defend the law.

If allowed to take effect on July 1 as planned, the law would ban most abortions once a fetal heartbeat is detected, around the sixth week of pregnancy. Abortion-rights groups say that's a time when many women do not know they are pregnant.

The American Civil Liberties Union of Iowa and the Planned

Parenthood Federation of America announced the filing of the complaint in Polk County District Court in Des Moines. The lawsuit argues that the law violates the Iowa Constitution by banning nearly all abortions and putting women's health at risk. It seeks an injunction to halt the law's implementation. Litigation could take years.

Until the 2016 election, Iowa had little to no role in the broad GOP effort to overturn Roe v. Wade, the landmark 1973 U.S. Supreme Court ruling that established a woman's right to terminate a pregnancy until a fetus is viable.

"We haven't heard much out of Iowa until the past couple of years," said state policy analyst

Elizabeth Nash of the Guttmacher Institute, a national research group that supports abortion rights and tracks abortion legislation. "It has been a very striking shift in the state Legislature, and it really shows how important state legislatures are to abortion access."

The election flipped control of the Iowa Senate, putting Republicans in charge of the Legislature and the governor's office for the first time in two decades. Up to that point, Democrats had maintained enough political power to curtail most Republican anti-abortion attempts.

Lawmakers adopted several abortion restrictions in 2017, including a 20-week abortion ban and a requirement that women

wait three days before ending a pregnancy. The waiting provision, one of the longest in the country, is on hold because of a different lawsuit.

Separately, a new Iowa-based coalition of anti-abortion organizations was formed last year to renew efforts toward an abortion ban. The Coalition of Pro-Life Leaders, which includes Family Leader, put aside years of disagreement among the groups to help win passage of the 20-week ban and the six-week ban.

Other plaintiffs in the lawsuit include Planned Parenthood of the Heartland, the affiliate's medical director and the Emma Goldman Clinic in Iowa City.



MIKE HOUSEHOLDER/AP

Machinery sits idle in a field Tuesday in Macomb Township, Mich. Crews have stopped digging in suburban Detroit where police have said they hoped to find the remains of up to seven missing girls.

Police in Michigan end dig for remains of up to 7 missing girls

By MIKE HOUSEHOLDER
Associated Press

MACOMB TOWNSHIP, Mich. — Police looking for the remains of up to seven girls who have been missing for decades stopped digging Tuesday in suburban Detroit, suspending a multiday effort while they decide whether to search elsewhere in Michigan or resume the excavation in roughly the same area.

Authorities repeatedly have said they're confident they will solve the cold cases, raising the hopes of anxious family members who are desperate to learn what happened to their loved ones. The timeout could last a week, Warren Mayor James Fouts told The Associated Press.

"I'm disappointed, obviously, there was not a recovery," said Connie Beyma, whose sister, Kimberley King, disappeared in 1979 at age 12. "Based on information from law enforcement, I was beginning to believe we were close to resolution."

Police tape was taken down and three heavy machines were silent Tuesday.

"They decided to stop and evaluate," said Fouts, whose police department is leading the

investigation.

The search began a week ago in Macomb County's Macomb Township, 30 miles northeast of downtown Detroit.

The site is roughly 25 acres of woods and open fields, not far from a residential neighborhood. Crews have clawed at just a portion.

Fouts said police will decide whether to dig again at the same site or take the search elsewhere in Macomb County or to northern Michigan. He didn't disclose what investigators might know about those locations.

Police were inspired to dig after talking to a prisoner, Arthur Ream, who was locked up in 2008 for slaying a 13-year-old girl. Cindy Zaryzky's remains were found a decade ago near the same woods. Ream was interviewed after fellow prisoners said he boasted about killing four to six other people. Police said he failed a lie-detector test.

Ream has declined to speak to reporters by phone, according to the Michigan Corrections Department.

Beyma, who was at the site Monday, said she wants to find her sister's remains and bury them at a family grave in Kentucky.

Police: Mom bound kids, then set the house aflame

Associated Press

TULSA, Okla. — Tulsa police on Tuesday arrested a woman who they say bound and gagged her three daughters, stabbed the eldest repeatedly and set their house on fire.

Police said a patrol officer found Taheerah Ahmad, 39, around midday in a vehicle in downtown Tulsa. Ahmad was taken into custody and her 7-year-old daughter, who had been reported missing, was found safe, police said. Investigators said that following her arrest, Ahmad told them she became upset after observing two of her children reading a book. It was not known what book they were reading, police said.

Ahmad was booked into the Tulsa County Jail on complaints of assault and battery with a deadly weapon with intent to kill, child abuse and first-degree arson. "Tulsa police officer Jeanne MacKenzie said earlier that the 7-year-old girl helped her 9-year-old sister escape Monday night, and the 9-year-old ran to a nearby house for help. MacKenzie told The Tulsa World that when authorities arrived, they found an 11-year-old girl with so many stab wounds that emergency responders "couldn't even count them." The house was on fire, and Ahmad and the youngest girl were missing.

The middle child told police that their mother placed socks in their mouths, bound their hands with duct tape and began stabbing the eldest child, MacKenzie said. The 11-year-old remained hospitalized Tuesday and police said she was unconscious and that her condition was "very severe."



Ahmad

AMERICAN ROUNDUP

4 charged with tainting cupcakes with fluids

CT WINCHESTER — Police charged four people they say brought cupcakes tainted with bodily fluids to their Connecticut school last year.

Two boys and two girls, whose names are not being released because they were juveniles at the time of the alleged actions, were charged Monday with offenses including fourth-degree sexual assault and second-degree breach of peace.

Police started investigating last June after getting complaints that the students brought cupcakes to The Gilbert School that were tainted with bodily fluids. Authorities have not specified the fluid.

Marriage proposal upstaged by 3-year-old

MI BAY CITY — A Michigan boy found a way to make his mark on the occasion of his mother's marriage proposal.

Allyssa Anter said "yes" Saturday to the question popped by her boyfriend, Kevin Przytula. Video shows the bride-to-be and man on bended knee are blissfully unaware that right next to them, 3-year-old Owen Anter had dropped his pants to urinate in front of Bay City's Ring of Friendship sculpture.

They were alerted to the pint-sized proposal crasher by the giggling videographer, Przytula's 11-year-old daughter, Kayleigh.

Beekeeper stung by \$20K hive heist

GA LULA — A Georgia beekeeper said thieves stole dozens of hives, taking off with up to \$20,000 worth of equipment.

Don Kuchenmeister told WSB-TV the hives disappeared Sunday morning.

With more than five decades of experience in beekeeping, including 35 years as a commercial beekeeper, Kuchenmeister operates Dixie Bee Supply in Banks County, where he often teaches disabled vets his craft.

He said the thieves likely had beekeeping experience and were looking to either sell the hives or use them to pollinate their own beekeeping business.

Men carjack ambulance, push worker out

PA PHILADELPHIA — Authorities said two men carjacked an ambulance in Philadelphia and pushed its driver out of the moving vehicle following a struggle.

The 32-year-old victim told police he was working in the back of the ambulance with the engine running when the two men got in.

The worker struggled for several minutes with one man before he was pushed from the ambulance.

The worker then called 911 and his company. They began tracking the ambulance, which was driven about a mile before police stopped it and took the man driving it into custody.

THE CENSUS

47

The number of years a library book was overdue before being returned to the San Francisco Public Library. The San Francisco Chronicle reported that the tattered paperback has a hole in its title page and a cover detached from the spine. It was 47 years, 4 months and 29 days late, to be exact. If the library didn't cap late fees at \$10.01, the fine would have been \$1,731.70. Last year, a man returned his great-grandmother's copy of "Forty Minutes Late" to another library branch. It was more than 100 years overdue.



MICHAEL BUPP, THE (CARLISLE, PA.) SENTINEL/AP

Two-dimensional prom date

Allison Closs arrives for the Carlisle High School senior prom at Letort View Community Center at Carlisle Barracks in Carlisle, Pa., on Friday with a cutout of actor Danny DeVito. Closs and her famous date joined other Carlisle High School seniors Friday for prom. Closs purchased the cutout of DeVito online along with a scooter she used to move the figure around.

Scientists help track all known asteroids

AZ FLAGSTAFF — A five-person team of scientists at Lowell Observatory in Flagstaff helps maintain a giant database of the orbits of all 775,092 known asteroids in the solar system.

The Arizona Daily Sun reported the team, thanks to funding from NASA, now is working to update the database and beef it up with information about the objects' physical characteristics such as color, mass, shape, size and rotational period.

Team member Nick Moskovitz says hundreds of thousands of those types of measurements have already been made and are stored in other databases or archives.

The goal of the NASA-funded project is to bring all of that into one place so researchers can better analyze it and make connections between different datasets.

Family reunited with lost dog found 4 years later

OH TOLEDO — A dog that ran away from a Lansing, Mich., family four years ago has been reunited with them after being found more than 100 miles away in Ohio and identified through a microchip.

The Blade reported a Toledo police officer found 12-year-old Bambi wandering a neighborhood and took her to Lucas County Canine Care & Control.

Bradley Wiefelich said he was surprised by the call from a microchip company telling him Bambi had been found.

Bambi and the Wiefelich family were reunited in Toledo a week ago.

150-pound sea turtle released off Florida Keys

FL MARATHON — A female loggerhead sea turtle was released off the Flor-

ida Keys, after convalescing for about three months at the Keys-based Turtle Hospital.

Hundreds of spectators applauded hospital staff Saturday as they released "Judy," a 150-pound juvenile that was found entangled in a fishing trap line off the Lower Keys in early February.

The reptile was treated with antibiotics, vitamins, lactulose and a diet of squid and fish. Even though her left rear flipper was amputated, as a result of the entanglement, "Judy" is expected to do well.

Auto museum looking for new home

IN KOKOMO — An automotive museum in a central Indiana city with a long history in the U.S. auto industry is looking for a new home.

The Kokomo Automotive Museum is set to close its doors May 18 after its current lease at the Kokomo Event and Conference

Center ends.

Development director Jeff Shively told the Kokomo Tribune the museum's rent was set to increase "tremendously."

Kokomo has been part of the auto industry since 1894.

\$1M lottery prize not claimed 1 month later

IA NEVADA — Iowa Lottery officials say someone has a \$1 million prize waiting to be claimed.

The winning numbers were purchased at a Casey's General Store in Nevada for a prize announced April 11.

The winner has until April 11, 2019, to claim the prize.

Lottery spokeswoman Mary Neubauer said it's unusual for such a large prize to be unclaimed for nearly a month.

The store will still receive a \$1,000 bonus even if the ticket isn't claimed.

From wire reports

FACES

Singing the blues

Study of pop music says songs are more

By MARK KENNEDY
Associated Press

A study of hundreds of thousands of popular songs over the past three decades has found a downward song trend in happiness and an increase in sadness, as the chirpy band Wham! gave way to the moody Sam Smith.

For the report in the journal Royal Society Open Science, researchers at the University of California at Irvine looked at 500,000 songs released in the UK between 1965 and 2015, and categorized them according to their mood.

"Happiness" is going down, "brightness" is going down, "sadness" is going up, and at the same time, the songs are becoming more "danceable" and more "party-like," co-author Natalia L. Komarova told The Associated Press.

Of course, the researchers emphasize a gradual

"Happiness" is going down, "brightness" is going down, "sadness" is going up, and at the same time, the songs are becoming more "danceable" and more "party-like."

— Natalia L. Komarova, co-author of a report on the mood of music



decrease in the average "happiness" index does not mean that all successful songs in 1985 were happy and all successful songs in 2015 were sad. They were looking for average trends in the acoustic properties of the music and the moods describing the sounds.

Some songs with a low happiness index in 2014 include "Stay With Me" by Sam Smith, "Whispers" by Passenger and "Unmissable" by Gorgon City. Some from 1985 with a high happiness index include "Glory Days" by Bruce Springsteen, "Would I Lie to You?" by the Eurythmics, and "Freedom" by Wham!

"The public seems to prefer happier songs, even though more and more unhappy songs are being released each year," the researchers wrote. They also found the most successful genres of music were dance and pop, as well as a "clear downward trend" in the success of rock, starting in the early 2000s.

The overall mood shifts in the songs' musical features, and other studies that have examined lyric changes over the years. They have found the use of positive emotions has declined and indicators of loneliness and social isolation have increased.

"So it looks like, while the overall mood is becoming less happy, people seem to want to forget it all and dance," emailed Komarova, who wrote the report with Myra Intoriano, Kamyar Kazemi, Lijia Wang, Jianyan Yang and Zhaoxia Yu.

The researchers also found that the "maleness" of songs — the frequency of male singers in popular music — has decreased over the past 30 years. "Successful songs are characterized by a larger percentage of female artists compared to all songs," they write.

Pauley Perrette claims she endured 'multiple physical assaults'

By KATE FELDMAN
New York Daily News

Pauley Perrette's recent "NCIS" departure doesn't appear to be as routine as once thought.

The 49-year-old actress left the long-running CBS forensic show after 15 seasons last week under what was originally presented as a professional decision. On Twitter, however, she told a different story.

"I refused to go low, that's why I've never told publicly what happened. But there are tabloid articles out there that are telling total lies about me. If you believe them? Please leave me alone. You clearly don't know me," she wrote over the weekend.

"Maybe I'm wrong for not 'spilling the beans.' Telling the story, THE TRUTH, I feel I have to protect my crew, jobs and so many people. But at what cost? I don't know. Just know, I'm trying to do the right thing, but maybe science isn't the right thing about crime."

Online, she spoke of bullying and a conspiracy to silence her. "There is a 'machine' keeping me silent, and feeding FALSE stories about me. A very rich, very powerful publicity 'machine.' No morals, no obligation to truth, and I'm just left here, reading the lies, trying to protect my crew. Trying to remain calm. He did it," she tweeted.

"I've been supporting anti-bullying programs forever. But now I KNOW because it was ME! If it's school or work, that you're required to go to? It's horrifying. I left. Multiple Physical Assaults. I REALLY get it now. Stay safe. Nothing is worth your safety. Tell someone."

A rep for CBS did not immediately return a request for comment.

Perrette said on Twitter on May 15: "I want to thank my studio and network CBS. They have always been so good to me and always had my back."



Perrette

DJ Khaled is the top nominee for the BET Awards with 6

From wire reports

DJ Khaled has reason to be grateful — he's been nominated for a leading six trophies for the BET Awards.

The nominations for next month's ceremony were announced Tuesday night. Among the awards Khaled was nominated for include album of the year for "Grateful" and video of the year for "Wild Thoughts," which features Rihanna and Beyoncé.

Other top nominees include Migos and SZA, both of whom were nominated for four awards. Bruno Mars, Drake, Beyoncé, Jay-Z, Cardi B and Chris Brown are also up for key awards.

Recent Pulitzer Prize-winner Kendrick Lamar is among the nominees for best album, and he's got competition from himself, for his "Black Panther" soundtrack.

The blockbuster is also nominated for best movie along with "Girls Trip" and "A Wrinkle in Time," among other films. Tiffany Haddish is nominated for best actress along with the likes of Issa Rae and Lupita Nyong'o, while Michael B. Jordan faces off against Chadwick Boseman and others for best actor.

Venus and Serena Williams are among the nominees for sports-woman of the year, while LeBron

James and Steph Curry are among the sportsman of the year nominees.

The BET Awards will be June 24 in Los Angeles.

Kensington Palace silent on reports

Kensington Palace is not commenting on reports that Meghan Markle's father needs a heart procedure and will miss Saturday's royal wedding in Windsor.

Prince Harry's press office said Wednesday it had no additional comment beyond a statement made two days ago calling for "understanding and respect" for Markle's father, Thomas, "in this difficult situation."

Thomas Markle, 73, is a retired Hollywood cinematographer who lives in Mexico and is divorced from Markle's mother. He told the TMZ celebrity website he needs treatment Wednesday for blocked coronary arteries including receiving a stent. That treatment would normally rule out making a lengthy plane trip to England right after the procedure.

Thomas Markle had been expected to spend the days before the wedding in Britain meeting Queen Elizabeth II and other senior royals. He is also still sched-

uled to walk his daughter down the aisle during the wedding Saturday in St. George's Chapel at Windsor Castle.

Meanwhile, Prince George and Princess Charlotte will have prominent roles in Saturday's royal wedding. Kensington Palace said Wednesday that 4-year-old George will be a page boy and 3-year-old Charlotte will be a bridesmaid at the wedding. They are the two oldest children of Prince William, Harry's brother, and his wife Kate.

Jason Isbell leads Americana nominations

Jason Isbell leads the nominees for the Americana Music Association's Honors and Awards with nominations in four categories, thanks to his critically acclaimed album "The Nashville Sound," which earned him two Grammy Awards earlier this year.

Also among the nominations announced Tuesday are country singer Margo Price and folk singer Brandi Carlile, who each got nods for artist, song and album of the year.

Also nominated for artist of the year is folk singer-songwriter John Prine. Mary Gauthier earned a nomination for album of

the year for her veteran-inspired record "Rides & Rosary Beads."

The 17th annual awards show will be Sept. 12 in Nashville.

Other news

■ Glance at next season's schedule for CBS, and you could be forgiven for wondering what decade it is. The network is adding remakes of 1980s series "Murphy Brown" and "Magnum, P.I." to a lineup that already includes blasts-from-the-past "Hawkeye" and "MacGyver."

■ Expect "Roseanne" to cool it on politics and concentrate on family stories when it returns for the second season of its revival next year. That's the word from ABC Entertainment chief Chandra Dandridge as she introduced the network's plans for next year on Tuesday. The show's return exceeded all expectations this spring, with the support of Roseanne Barr's character for President Donald Trump attracting attention. Dandridge noted that as the first season went on, the focus shifted from politics to family. She said that direction will continue next season. ABC is bringing back its "TGIF" Friday comedy schedule in the fall, and Alec Baldwin will star in a Sunday-night talk show.

■ Former President George H.W. Bush, "history's never soundest" power. The touring company of the Tony-winning musical "Hamilton" gave the Republican a special performance in his Houston office Tuesday. Bush tweeted it was a "complete joy to welcome the 'HamPam.'"

■ "Hawaii" starlet Lin-Manuel Miranda tweeted it was an honor.

■ Best-selling children's author Andrea Beaty has new adventures in store for Rosie Revere. Abrams Children's Books told The Associated Press on Wednesday that Beaty is working on chapter books featuring Rosie Revere. Beaty's beloved descendant of the legendary Rosie the Riveter; Iggy Peck; and other characters from her previous releases. Her next book, "Rosie Revere and the Raucous Riveters," is scheduled for October.

■ The Washington State Court of Appeals has ruled that photographs from the scene of Nirvana frontman Kurt Cobain's death will not be released publicly. KINGSTV reports the court ruled Tuesday that the photographs are exempt from Washington state's Public Records Act and releasing the photos would "violate the Cobain family's due process rights under the 14th Amendment."

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BUSINESS/WEATHER

US firms seek tariff relief as trade resolution sought

By PAUL WISEMAN
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Corporate America is seeking relief from President Donald Trump's threatened tariffs on at least \$50 billion in Chinese goods as negotiators seek to prevent a trade war between the world's two biggest economies.

Best Buy wants televisions to be spared from the tariffs. Sanden International (USA) of Wylie, Texas, warns it will have to lay off 39 of its 431 workers if 25 percent tariffs take effect on the components it uses to make car air-conditioning compressors. SABIC, a petrochemical manufacturer, wants some building materials struck from the tariff list.

As the U.S. government began three days of hearings on the tariffs Tuesday, Chinese Vice Premier Liu He traveled to Washington to seek a resolution to the trade dispute. A similar high-level U.S. delegation made a trip to Beijing earlier this month and returned empty-handed.

Trump raised hopes for the latest talks by striking a surprisingly conciliatory tone toward China, which he has long accused of predatory business practices that robbed American jobs and swelled Washington's trade deficit with Beijing. Trump offered a lifeline to ZTE, a Chinese telecom company that is fighting for survival after being hit with sanctions this month by the U.S. Commerce Department.

Trump tweeted Sunday that he was working with President Xi Jinping to put ZTE "back in business, fast" and save tens of thousands of Chinese jobs — a stance

that drew an immediate outcry from many Republicans and Democrats alike.

Trump had campaigned for the presidency on a vow to strike a much tougher trade stance than his recent predecessors, who, he argued, had agreed to deals that gave an unfair advantage to America's competitors. The president has pointed to the U.S. trade deficit (\$566 billion last year) as a sign of economic weakness caused by disastrous agreements and abusive behavior by China and other countries.

He has proposed tariffs on \$50 billion in Chinese imports to punish Beijing for forcing American companies to hand over technology in exchange for access to China's vast market. China fired back by targeting \$50 billion in American products, including soybeans and small aircraft, for potential retaliatory tariffs. Trump then ordered the U.S. trade representative to look for an additional \$100 billion in Chinese goods to tax.

The prospect of an escalating trade war has rattled financial markets and alarmed many businesses. The American Chemistry Council has predicted that by driving up prices and killing sales, the tariffs would wipe out 24,000 jobs at the companies that make chemicals and the companies that use them.

Yet some trade analysts have suggested that Trump's unexpected ZTE overture could give U.S. and Chinese negotiators something to work with. Commerce and ZTE last year settled charges that the Chinese company sold sensitive telecommunications equipment to Iran and North Korea in

violation of U.S. sanctions. ZTE agreed to plead guilty and pay about \$1 billion in fines.

Commerce last month accused ZTE of violating the agreement and blocked the company from importing American components for seven years. The department said ZTE had misled regulators. Instead of disciplining all employees involved in the sanctions violations, Commerce asserted, ZTE had paid some of them full bonuses and then lied about it.

The two countries are reportedly attempting a swap: Relief for ZTE in return for Beijing dropping plans to impose tariffs on U.S. farm products.

William Perry of the Seattle law firm Harris Bricken, who runs the US China Trade War blog, said he thought the president has belatedly realized that a trade war would hurt some of his staunchest supporters — farmers in the American heartland who rely on exports. It might also hurt his Republican Party in the November congressional elections.

Still, Trump's ZTE tweet drew fire on Capitol Hill from some Democrats and Republicans.

"It's the wrong time to cut a deal, and this would be a terrible deal," said Republican Sen. Marco Rubio of Florida.

Senate Minority Leader Chuck Schumer of New York lambasted Trump for going easy on a company that violated U.S. sanctions.

"He talks a big game on China," Schumer said. "He promises to be tough, and yet this weekend on the toughest thing he did [harsh sanctions on ZTE], the thing that woke the Chinese up ... the president backed off."

Amazon Prime members to get discounts at Whole Foods

By JOSEPH PISANI
Associated Press

NEW YORK — It's Prime time at Whole Foods: Amazon is rolling out discounts for Prime members at the organic grocer.

The benefits started Wednesday at stores in Florida and will expand nationwide this summer. Prime members will get an additional 10 percent off sale items and exclusive deals on certain groceries.

This week in Florida, for example, Prime members can get \$2 off a pound of organic strawberries or save \$10 a pound on wild halibut steaks.

Amazon wouldn't say if it plans to add the benefits to Whole Foods stores in Canada and the United Kingdom.

Since it changed Whole Foods last year, Amazon.com Inc. has cut prices on some groceries, begun offering same-day delivery to Prime members in several cities and extended its 5 percent cash back Amazon rewards credit card to Whole Foods purchases.

But turning its Prime membership into the Whole Foods loyalty program could drive more people to its stores.

Amazon said last month that it had more than 100 million paid Prime members worldwide. That was before it announced it's raising the price to \$119 a year, up from \$99.

Prime members get fast shipping from Amazon.com and other perks, like access to its video streaming service.

To show that they're Prime members, shoppers can scan the Whole Foods app at the register or give the cashier their phone number.

EXCHANGE RATES

Military rates	
Euro costs (May 17)	\$1.2095
Dollar buys (May 17)	68.8258
British pound (May 17)	\$1.38
Japanese yen (May 17)	107.00
South Korean won (May 17)	1,052.00
Commercial rates	
Bahrain (Dinar)	\$3.774
Canada (Dollar)	1.2803
China (Yuan)	6.3713
Denmark (Krone)	6.3131
Egypt (Pound)	17.8492
Euro	\$1.1790/0.8475
Hong Kong (Dollar)	7.8502
Hungary (Forint)	267.74
Israel (Shekel)	3.5879
Japan (Yen)	110.20
Kuwait (Dinar)	4.3019
Norway (Krone)	8.0959
Philippines (Peso)	52.19
Poland (Zloty)	3.63
Saudi Arabia (Riyal)	3.7495
Singapore (Dollar)	1.3486
South Korea (Won)	1,078.05
Switzerland (Franc)	0.9950
Thailand (Baht)	32.07
Turkey (Lira)	4.4197

Military exchange rates are those available to customers at military banking facilities in the country of issuance for Japan, South Korea, Germany, the Netherlands and the United Kingdom. For nonleisure currency exchange rates (i.e., purchasing British pounds in Germany), check with your local military banking facility. Commercial rates are interbank rates provided for reference when buying currency. All figures are foreign currencies to one dollar, except for the British pound, which is represented in dollars-to-pound, and the euro, which is dollars-to-euro.)

INTEREST RATES

Prime rate	4.75
Discount rate	2.25
Federal funds market rate	1.69
3-month bill	1.99
30-year bond	3.20

MARKET WATCH

May 15, 2018

Dow Jones	-193.00
industrials	24,706.41
Nasdaq	-59.69
composite	7,351.63
Standard & Poor's 500	-18.68
	2,711.45
Russell	0.00
2000	1,600.34

WEATHER OUTLOOK



The weather is provided by the American Forces Network Weather Center, 2nd Weather Squadron at Offutt Air Force Base, Neb.



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Frazz

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Non Sequitur

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Eugene Sheffer Crossword

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ACROSS

- 1 "Frozen" snow
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5 Chanteuse Edith
9 Martini ingredient
12 Active one
13 Capri, for one
14 GI entertainers
15 Green party dip
17 Small batteries
18 Geologic layers
19 Awkward,
in slang
21 Opposite of nyet
22 Plains grazers
24 Olympic sled
27 "Kapow!"
28 Chopped
31 Perfume
label word
32 Buckeyes' sch.
33 Scooted
34 Port of Algeria
36 Poetic

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| 55 Furry | 24 Sign before Virgin |
| 56 Lairs | 25 Eg. and
Syr., once |
| DOWN | 26 Llama-like
animals |
| 1 Early birds? | 27 This and that |
| 2 Lummox | 29 Pallid |
| 3 Blacken | 30 Away from SSW |
| 4 Video-game hub | 35 At once |
| 5 Fine cotton | 37 Placated |
| 6 Equal (Pref.) | 39 Wrath |
| 7 The whole
enchilada | 40 "The Bells"
author |
| 8 Nourishes | 41 Senior moment? |
| 9 Famed violin
maker of
Cremona | 42 Gambling mecca |
| 10 Author Dinesen | 43 Eyelid woe |
| 11 Prying | 44 Florida county |
| 16 One-time link | 45 Clair |
| 20 Sound of delight | 46 Runs (into) |
| 22 Foundation | 49 Italian article |
| | 50 Batter's state |

Answer to Previous Puzzle

H	E	A	D	A	A	A	S	T	A	N
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5-17

CRYPTOQUIP

C S B M Q C F S Q S X M B A T V K
P O M T K H Y E T F E A E S I T H
R T K H P V D ' Z D S D X S M Z I T E R B

Yesterday's **C**ryptoquip: WHAT COULD YOU CALL IT WHEN YOU'RE DOING A NOTEWORTHY DEED IN FRIGID WEATHER? COLD FEAT.

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: C equals Y


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SCOREBOARD

Sports on AFN

Go to the American Forces Network website for the most up-to-date TV schedules. myafn.net

College baseball

Tuesday's scores

EAST
Boston College 9, Maine 7, 11 innings
Fairfield 8, UMass 4
Fremont State 1, Johns 5
Rhode Island 4, UConn 3
Rutgers 4, Monmouth (NJ) 3
SOUTH
Clemson 7, Kennesaw St. 2
Delaware 8, La Salle 4
East Carolina 12, Campbell 5
Georgia Tech 8, SE Missouri 5
Indiana 3, Louisville 9, 10 innings
Richmond 11, Virginia 3
UNC-Wilmington 4, North Carolina 2
Vanderbilt 21, Middle Tennessee 4
Virginia Tech 10, William & Mary 8
Wake Forest 9, High Point 8
MIDWEST
Ball St. 3, Fort Wayne 2
Cent. Michigan 13, Michigan St. 2
Cleveland 14, Ohio St. 2
Clarke 8, Trinity Christian (Ill.) 1
Dayton 10, Central 10
Eastern 5, Youngstown St. 1
Milwaukee 13, Illinois 2
North Carolina 19, North Carolina 10
Valparaiso 3, Chicago St. 2
West St. Bowling Green 2
Xavier 14, N. Kentucky 3
FAR WEST
N. Colorado 18, Air Force 11
San Francisco 3, UC Davis 0
Stanford 5, BYU 1

Tennis

Italian Open

At Foro Italico

Purse: Men, \$5.2 million (Masters 1000); Women, \$3.2 million (Premier)
Surface: Clay, Outdoor
Singles
First Round
Nikoloz Basilashvili, Georgia, def. Filippo Baldi, Italy, 6-4, 6-6, 6-4.
Damir Dzumhur, Bosnia-Herzegovina, def. Zoran Primorac, Croatia, 6-2, 7-6 (6).
Luca Pouille (16), France, def. Andrea Sisti, Italy, 6-4, 6-2.
Diego Schwartzman (14), Argentina, def. Nicolas Jarry, Chile, 6-4, 6-1.
Zoran Primorac, Croatia, def. Borna Coric, Croatia, 4-1, retired.
Emma Shasnovaya, Canada, def. Tomas Berdych (15), Czech Republic, 1-6, 6-3, 6-7 (6).
Second Round
Peter Gogulycz, Germany, def. Lorenzo Sonego, Italy, 6-3, 6-4.
David Goffin (9), Belgium, def. Marco Cecconato, Italy, 6-4, 6-2.
Philipp Kohlschreiber, Germany, def. Ryan Harrison, US, 6-4, 6-2.
Ryan Harrison, US, level with Marin Cilic (4), Croatia, 6-3 (3), susp., rain.
Women
First Round
Daria Kasatkina (4), Russia, def. Ajla Tomljanovic, Australia, 6-0, 6-4.
Danielle Collins, United States, def. Sorana Cristea, Romania, 6-3, 4-6, 6-4.
Hsieh Su-wei, Taiwan, def. Arina Saba, Belarus, 6-2, 6-4.
Elena Vesnina, Russia, def. Laura Siegemund, Germany, 6-2, 6-2.
Maria Sakrari, Greece, def. Kiki Bertens, Netherlands, 6-2, 6-1.
Svetlana Kuznetsov, Russia, def. Polona Herczeg, Slovenia, 6-2, 11-9.
Angelique Kerber (11), Germany, def. Zvezana Jancic, Croatia, 6-2, 6-2.
Irina-Camela Begu, Romania, def. Peng Shuai, China, 6-4, 6-4, 6-1.
Ashleigh Barty (16), Australia, 7-5, 3-6, 6-2.
Christina Garcia, China, def. Petra Maric, Croatia, 6-1, 6-2.
K.Mladenovic, France, 6-3, 3-0, retired.
Jelena Ostapenko (5), Latvia, def. Zhang Shuai, China, 6-2, 7-5.
Doubles
First Round
Steve Hoggan, Steve and Dominic Thiem, Austria, def. Alexander and Michael Hermann, Germany, 6-4, 6-4.
Robin Haase, and Jean-Julien Roquet, Netherlands, def. Julio Pereira, Chile, and Horacio Zerbino, Argentina, 6-4, 6-4.
Juan Martin del Potro and Leonardo Mayer, Argentina, def. Simone Bolelli and Fabio Fognini, Italy, 6-4, 1-6, 11-9.

First Round
Madison Keys and Venus Williams, U.S., def. Barbora Krejickova and Katerina Siniakova, Czech Republic, 2-6, 6-1, 10-8.
Christina Garcia, Australia, and Hsieh Su-wei, Taiwan, def. Alicia Rosoli and Poland, and Abigail Spears, U.S., 6-4, 6-4.

Pro soccer

MLS

Eastern Conference	W	L	T	Pts	GF	GA
Atlanta United FC	8	3	2	25	12	13
Columbus	6	3	2	21	16	16
New York City FC	6	2	3	21	16	16
Orlando City	6	3	1	19	20	16
New York	6	3	0	18	23	11
New England	5	5	2	17	13	17
Montreal	5	5	2	17	13	17
Philadelphia	5	5	2	11	14	18
Chicago	4	6	2	5	14	20
Toronto FC	2	6	1	7	12	18
D.C. United	2	6	2	5	10	16

Western Conference	W	L	T	Pts	GF	GA
Sporting KC	4	4	4	16	13	13
Los Angeles FC	6	2	2	20	22	16
FC Dallas	4	4	4	16	14	13
Portland	4	3	2	14	14	14
Vancouver	4	5	2	14	12	20
Real Salt Lake	4	4	1	13	12	13
Minnesota United	4	7	0	12	13	21
Houston	3	5	1	10	12	15
LA Galaxy	3	6	1	10	14	19
San Jose	2	6	2	8	15	17
Colorado	2	6	2	8	11	13
Seattle	5	5	2	8	7	11

NOTE: Three points for victory, one point for tie.

Friday, May 12
Houston 2, Vancouver 2 tie
Saturday, May 12
San Jose, Minnesota United 1
Philadelphia 2, Montreal 0
FC Dallas 3, LA Galaxy 2
Chicago 3, Chicago 0
New England 3, Toronto FC 2
New York 2, Colorado 1
Real Salt Lake 3, D.C. United 2
Sunday, May 13
Portland 1, Seattle 0
Orlando United FC 2, Orlando City 1
New York City FC 2, Los Angeles FC 2 tie

Wednesday, May 16
San Jose 1, Vancouver 1
Friday, May 18
Orlando City at Toronto FC
Saturday, May 19
Colorado at New York City FC
Los Angeles FC at Portland
Vancouver at FC Dallas
Columbus at New England
Real Salt Lake at Philadelphia
D.C. United at San Jose
Sunday, May 20
Sporting Kansas City at Minnesota United
Houston at Chicago
New York at Atlanta United FC

NWSL
North Carolina 6, Portland 3
Seattle 4, 1-2, 20-13, GF 9
Orlando 3, 2-3, 12-8, GF 7
Portland 2, 3-3, 9-11, GF 12
Chicago 2, 3-3, 9-11, GF 12
Houston 1, 3-4, 7-7, GF 12
Washington 1, 4-2, 5-7, GF 11
Sky Blue FC 0, 1-2, 5-11, GF 0

NOTE: Three points for victory, one point for tie.

Saturday's games
Orlando 2, Portland 1
North Carolina 1, Washington 0
Houston 2, Chicago 2 tie
Seattle 3, Sky Blue 1
Sunday, May 19
Houston at Washington
Portland at North Carolina
San Jose at Sky Blue FC
Chicago at Seattle
Wednesday, May 23
North Carolina at Orlando
Chicago at Washington
Seattle at Houston

College lacrosse
Opening Round
Saturday, May 9
Robert Morris 12, Cornell 6
First Round
Sunday, May 12
Yale 15, UMass 13
Cornell 12, Villanova 11
Albany (NY) 18, Richmond 9
Louisiana (M.) 13, Virginia 9
Sunday, May 20
Maryland 14, Robert Morris 11
Friday, May 19
Johns Hopkins 10, Georgetown 9, OT
Cornell 10, Syracuse 9
Quarterfinals
Saturday, May 19
At James M. Shuart Stadium
Hempstead, N.Y.
Yale (14-3) vs. Loyola (MD) (13-3)
Albany (NY) (15-2) vs. Denver (10-6)
Sunday, May 20
At Navy-Marine Corps Memorial Stadium
Annapolis, Md.
Maryland (13-3) vs. Cornell (13-3)
Johns Hopkins (12-4) vs. Duke (14-4)
Semi-finals
Sunday, May 20
Foxborough, Mass.
Cornell vs. Maryland
Yale-Loyola (MD)-Virginia winner vs. Albany (NY)-Denver winner
Championship
Monday, May 28
Semifinal winners

College softball

NCAA Division I tournament

Note: 16 regional champions advance to the Super Regionals.

Double elimination
X-If necessary
Regionals
Thursday, May 17
At Eugene, Ore.
BYU (35-20) vs. North Carolina (30-10)
Albany (NY) (32-14) at Oregon (47-7)
Friday, May 18
Game 3 — Game 1 winner vs. Game 2 winner
Game 4 — Game 1 loser vs. Game 2 loser
Game 5 — Game 3 winner vs. Game 4 winner

Saturday, May 19
Game 6 — Game 3 winner vs. Game 5 winner
Game 7 — Game 6 opponents
Lexington Regional
Friday, May 18
At Lexington, Ky.
Michigan (43-11) vs. Notre Dame (32-21)
Ill.-Chicago (33-19) at Kentucky (31-21)
Sunday, May 19
Game 3 — Game 1 winner vs. Game 2 winner
Game 4 — Game 1 loser vs. Game 2 loser
Game 5 — Game 3 loser vs. Game 4 winner

Sunday, May 20
Game 6 — Game 3 winner vs. Game 5 winner
Game 7 — Game 6 opponents
Columbia Regional
Friday, May 18
At Columbia, S.C.
Liberty (47-12) vs. Hofstra (40-12)
UNC-Asheville (45-10) vs. North Carolina (33-19)
Saturday, May 19
Game 3 — Game 1 winner vs. Game 2 winner
Game 4 — Game 1 loser vs. Game 2 loser
Game 5 — Game 3 winner vs. Game 4 winner

Sunday, May 20
Game 6 — Game 3 winner vs. Game 5 winner
Game 7 — Game 6 opponents
Tempe Regional
Friday, May 18
At Tempe, Ariz.
Long Beach St. (42-12) vs. Ole Miss (33-11)
New Mexico St. (29-22) at Arizona St. (43-11)
Saturday, May 19
Game 3 — Game 1 winner vs. Game 2 winner
Game 4 — Game 1 loser vs. Game 2 loser
Game 5 — Game 3 winner vs. Game 4 winner

Sunday, May 20
Game 6 — Game 3 winner vs. Game 5 winner
Game 7 — Game 6 opponents
Seattle Regional
Friday, May 18
At Seattle
Texas (32-22) vs. Minnesota (39-15)
Boise St. (40-14) at Washington (44-8)
Saturday, May 19
Game 3 — Game 1 winner vs. Game 2 winner
Game 4 — Game 1 loser vs. Game 2 loser
Game 5 — Game 3 winner vs. Game 4 winner

Sunday, May 20
Game 6 — Game 3 winner vs. Game 5 winner
Game 7 — Game 6 opponents
Tuscaloosa Regional
Friday, May 18
At Tuscaloosa, Ala.
Oregon St. (28-26) vs. Bronson (28-21)
Middle Tennessee (39-20) at Alabama (33-18)
Saturday, May 19
Game 3 — Game 1 winner vs. Game 2 winner
Game 4 — Game 1 loser vs. Game 2 loser
Game 5 — Game 3 winner vs. Game 4 winner

Sunday, May 20
Game 6 — Game 3 winner vs. Game 5 winner
Game 7 — Game 6 opponents
Fayetteville Regional
Friday, May 18
At Fayetteville, Ark.
Wichita St. (30-21) vs. Oklahoma St. (33-18)
DePaul (35-15) at Arkansas (39-15)
Saturday, May 19
Game 3 — Game 1 winner vs. Game 2 winner
Game 4 — Game 1 loser vs. Game 2 loser
Game 5 — Game 3 winner vs. Game 4 winner

Sunday, May 20
Game 6 — Game 3 winner vs. Game 5 winner
Game 7 — Game 6 opponents
Norman Regional
Friday, May 18
At Norman, Okla.
Missouri (34-27) vs. North Carolina (33-23)
Boston U. (39-18) at Oklahoma (50-33)
Saturday, May 19
Game 3 — Game 1 winner vs. Game 2 winner
Game 4 — Game 1 loser vs. Game 2 loser
Game 5 — Game 3 winner vs. Game 4 winner

Sunday, May 20
Game 6 — Game 3 winner vs. Game 5 winner
Game 7 — Game 6 opponents

Los Angeles Regional

Friday, May 18
At Los Angeles
Cal St. Fullerton (33-23) vs. Texas St. (42-14)
Sacramento St. (31-18) at UCLA (50-4)
Saturday, May 19
Game 3 — Game 1 winner vs. Game 2 winner
Game 4 — Game 1 loser vs. Game 2 loser
Game 5 — Game 3 winner vs. Game 4 winner

Sunday, May 20
Game 6 — Game 3 winner vs. Game 5 winner
Game 7 — Game 6 opponents
Tucson Regional
Friday, May 18
At Tucson, Ariz.
Mississippi St. (36-21) vs. North Dakota St. (33-17)
St. Francis (Pa.) (39-17) at Arizona (40-14)
Saturday, May 19
Game 3 — Game 1 winner vs. Game 2 winner
Game 4 — Game 1 loser vs. Game 2 loser
Game 5 — Game 3 winner vs. Game 4 winner

Sunday, May 20
Game 6 — Game 3 winner vs. Game 5 winner
Game 7 — Game 6 opponents
Baton Rouge Regional
Friday, May 18
At Baton Rouge, La.
Houston (42-20) vs. Louisiana (38-14)
Fordham (33-21) at LSU (41-14)
Saturday, May 19
Game 3 — Game 1 winner vs. Game 2 winner
Game 4 — Game 1 loser vs. Game 2 loser
Game 5 — Game 3 winner vs. Game 4 winner

Sunday, May 20
Game 6 — Game 3 winner vs. Game 5 winner
Game 7 — Game 6 opponents
Tallahassee Regional
Friday, May 18
At Tallahassee, Fla.
Auburn (40-15) vs. Kennesaw St. (39-15)
Jacksonville St. (33-23) at Florida St. (47-10)
Saturday, May 19
Game 3 — Game 1 winner vs. Game 2 winner
Game 4 — Game 1 loser vs. Game 2 loser
Game 5 — Game 3 winner vs. Game 4 winner

Sunday, May 20
Game 6 — Game 3 winner vs. Game 5 winner
Game 7 — Game 6 opponents
Athens Regional
Friday, May 18
At Athens, Ga.
Northwestern (36-17) vs. California (34-19)
Harvard (33-16) at Georgia (43-11)
Saturday, May 19
Game 3 — Game 1 winner vs. Game 2 winner
Game 4 — Game 1 loser vs. Game 2 loser
Game 5 — Game 3 winner vs. Game 4 winner

Sunday, May 20
Game 6 — Game 3 winner vs. Game 5 winner
Game 7 — Game 6 opponents
Knoxville Regional
Friday, May 18
At Knoxville, Tenn.
James Madison (42-25) vs. Ohio (38-15)
Monmouth (32-14) at Tennessee (45-12)
Saturday, May 19
Game 3 — Game 1 winner vs. Game 2 winner
Game 4 — Game 1 loser vs. Game 2 loser
Game 5 — Game 3 winner vs. Game 4 winner

Sunday, May 20
Game 6 — Game 3 winner vs. Game 5 winner
Game 7 — Game 6 opponents
College Station Regional
Friday, May 18
At College Station, Texas
McNeese (40-19) vs. Baylor (36-16)
Prairie View (20-21) vs. Texas A&M (40-16)
Saturday, May 19
Game 3 — Game 1 winner vs. Game 2 winner
Game 4 — Game 1 loser vs. Game 2 loser
Game 5 — Game 3 winner vs. Game 4 winner

Sunday, May 20
Game 6 — Game 3 winner vs. Game 5 winner
Game 7 — Game 6 opponents
San Antonio Regional
Friday, May 18
At San Antonio, Texas
San Antonio (36-17) vs. Oklahoma (33-18)
DePaul (35-15) at Arkansas (39-15)
Saturday, May 19
Game 3 — Game 1 winner vs. Game 2 winner
Game 4 — Game 1 loser vs. Game 2 loser
Game 5 — Game 3 winner vs. Game 4 winner

Sunday, May 20
Game 6 — Game 3 winner vs. Game 5 winner
Game 7 — Game 6 opponents

Deals

Tuesday's transactions

BASEBALL

Major League Baseball
OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER OF BASEBALL — Suspended Rob Snodgrass Cano 80 games after testing positive for Furosemide, a Diuretic, in violation of Major League Baseball's Joint Drug Prevention and Treatment Program.

ANNUAL LEAGUE

BALTIMORE ORIOLES — Announced INF Renato Nunez cleared waivers for Baltimore Orioles. Placed on 10-day DL. **BOSTON RED SOX** — Placed RHP Carson Smith on the 10-day DL. Recalled RHP Bobby Poyner from Pawtucket (IL). Acquired LHP Josh Loya from the Arizona Diamondbacks to complete the trade for Devin Marrero.

CHICAGO WHITE SOX — Reinstated 2B Nomar Moncada from the 10-day DL. **CLEVELAND INDIANS** — Selected the contract of RHP Neil Ramirez from Columbus (IL). Placed OF Bradley Zimmer on the 10-day DL, retroactive to May 12. Transferred LHP Ryan Merritt from the 10-day DL.

NEW YORK YANKEES — Recalled OF Clint Frazier from Scranton/Wilkes-Barre (IL). Designated RHP David Robertson for assignment. **NEW YORK YANKEES** — Recalled OF Clint Frazier from Scranton/Wilkes-Barre (IL). Designated RHP David Robertson for assignment.

ATLANTA BRAVES — Claimed LHP Chad Bradford from the Detroit Tigers and optioned him to Gwinnett (IL). **CHICAGO CUBS** — Activated RHP Yu Darvish from the 10-day DL. Optioned Mark Zakarias to Iowa (PCL).

LOS ANGELES DODGERS — Activated 3B Justin Turner from the 10-day DL. Placed OF Kyle Farmer and OF Tim Lincecum on the 10-day DL. **NEW YORK METS** — Placed LHP Jerry Blevins on the 10-day DL. Recalled LHP Buddy Baumann and RHP Jacob deGrom from Las Vegas (PCL). Optioned RHP Corey Seager to Las Vegas (PCL).

PHILADELPHIA PHILLIES — Sent RHP Reid Kefford on a rehab assignment to Reading (IL). **ST. LOUIS CARDINALS** — Placed RHP Adam Wainwright back on the 10-day DL. Recalled RHP Cole Larnier from Memphis (PCL).

ST. LOUIS CARDINALS — Placed LHP Joey Lucchesi on the 10-day DL. Recalled INF Carlos Asuaje from El Paso (PCL). **SAN ANTONIO RANGERS** — Placed OF Austin Slater to Sacramento (PCL). Recalled INF Miguel Gomez from Richmond (IL).

NATIONAL FOOTBALL LEAGUE
CLEVELAND BROWNS — Claimed OL Anthony Fabiano off waivers from Indianapolis and OL Avery Gerveny from Denver from Jacksonville. Waived P Michael Carrizzo and OL Christian Shepherd.

GREEN BAY PACKERS — Signed CB Jaire Alexander. **MINNESOTA VIKINGS** — Agreed to terms with WRs Laquante Gloverize, Ricky Williams, and WRs Stephen Goss and Williams. TE Cordell McCroby; CBs Quiesha Mikkell and Marlon Braxton; QB Luis Riddick. **NEW YORK GIANTS** — Signed QB Eli Manning.

SAN FRANCISCO 49ERS — Claimed CB C.J. Goodwin off waivers from the New York Giants. Waived WR DeAndre Carter. Signed LB Darian Woodson to a three-year contract.

TENNESSEE TITANS Agreed to terms with WRs Justin Evers and TE Brian Wynn. **CANADIAN FOOTBALL LEAGUE**
EDMONTON Eskimos — Signed OL Tom De Haven. **WINNIPEG BLUE BOBMTS** — Signed DB Chris Humes. OL N.A. Rodgers. Released DB D. Williams.

NATIONAL HOCKEY LEAGUE
ARIZONA COYOTES — Signed C David Ulstrom to a one-year, two-way contract.

COLORADO AVALANCHE — Signed D Mark Barberio to a two-year contract.

ST. NORBERT — Named B.J. Bryant men's volleyball coach when the program begins in the 2019-20 academic year.

TEXAS TECH — Announced graduate basketball G Matt Mooney is transferring from South Dakota and will be eligible to play next season.

NHL PLAYOFFS/INDY 500

Lightning handle Caps, trim East final deficit to 2-1

By STEPHEN WHYNO
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Victor Hedman figured all the Tampa Bay Lightning needed to get back on track was a shift in momentum.

The big defenseman took it upon himself to provide it.

Hedman scored his first goal of the playoffs and added two assists, and Andrei Vasilevsky stopped 36 of 38 shots to help the Lightning beat the Washington Capitals 4-2 in Game 3 of the Eastern Conference final Tuesday night and cut their series deficit to 2-1. Hedman had the primary assist on power-play goals by Steven Stamkos and Nikita Kucherov and was a key part of three big penalty kills for Tampa Bay.

"I'm put in a position to produce, and I put that pressure on myself to do it," said Hedman, who has a goal and 10 assists during an eight-game point streak. "For me, it's about being effective at all ends of the ice and trying to be a difference-maker every time I step on it."

Hedman was dominant all over the ice as Tampa Bay looked like an entirely different team than the one that lost the first two games of the series at home and now has a chance to tie it in Game 4 on Thursday. The Norris Trophy finalist who played a team-high 25:08 was most proud of successful penalty kills.

"He's a perennial Norris guy,"

Stamkos said of Hedman. "We can't describe how good he is out there. We rely on him a ton, he's a horse and most nights if he's going well, we're going well as a team. Another big effort for him tonight, and you could see we all followed suit."

It wasn't perfect, but it was a more complete effort from Tampa Bay, which jumped out to a 3-0 lead before Brett Connolly answered for Washington in the second. Brayden Point's goal less than five minutes later allowed the Atlantic Division champions to play with a comfortable lead that survived Evgeny Kuznetsov's 6-on-5 goal with 3:02 remaining.

Vasilevsky was a big part of holding on to the lead as he made seven saves on the penalty kill as part of a bounce-back performance after being criticized for his play earlier in the series. It wasn't perfect, but the Lightning began to make it up to Vasilevsky for hanging him out to dry on so many odd-man rushes in Games 1 and 2 by improving their defensive-zone play.

"We always feel like we owe him," defenseman Anton Stralman said. "He's our best player. He's always there, he's always there for us and tonight we did a good job in front of him. I think that gives him some confidence, too, that he knows we're on and that's the way it should be."

The Capitals outshot the Lightning 38-23 but didn't help goal-



ALEX BRANDON/AP

Tampa Bay players, from left, Victor Hedman, Steven Stamkos, J.T. Miller and Brayden Point celebrate Stamkos' goal during the first period of Game 3 of the Eastern Conference finals against the Washington Capitals on Tuesday. The Lightning claimed their first win in the series 4-2.

tender Braden Holtby with six minor penalties. Holtby allowed four goals but was helpless on the one-timers on the power play by Stamkos and Kucherov — the 10th and 11th Tampa Bay power-play goals over a streak of seven games with at least one.

"We know both teams have pretty good special teams, and if we're going to play like that, they're going to use it," said Capitals captain Alex Ovechkin, who combined with Kuznetsov to put 21 shots on net. "Obviously, you can see we didn't score, they scored."

Tampa Bay got two injury scares in the third period when Stamkos hobbled off after taking a slap shot from teammate Brayden Coburn in the right knee and Tyler Johnson was cross-checked by Michal Kempny. Each returned minutes later.

Sporting an ice pack on his

right knee, Stamkos said it was just a stinger and that he was fine. He wants the Lightning to be feeling better but not too good still down 2-1.

"We haven't done anything yet," Stamkos said. "The goal is to win a championship, but you can't look too far ahead. We've made it a series."

Scoreboard

Conference finals

(Best-of-seven; x-if necessary)

EASTERN CONFERENCE

Washington 2, Tampa Bay 1
Washington 4, Tampa Bay 2

Thursday 6, Tampa Bay 2

Tuesday: Tampa Bay 4, Washington 2

Thursday: at Washington, AFN-Sports: 2 a.m. Friday, CET: 9 a.m. Friday JKT.

Saturday, May 19: at Tampa Bay

x-Monday, May 20: at Washington

x-Wednesday, May 23: at Tampa Bay

WESTERN CONFERENCE

Winnipeg 1, Vegas 1

Winnipeg 4, Vegas 2

Vegas 3, Winnipeg 1

Wednesday: at Vegas. AFN-Sports: 3 a.m. Thursday CET: 10 a.m. Thursday JKT.

Friday: at Vegas

Sunday: at Winnipeg

x-Tuesday, May 22: at Vegas

x-Thursday, May 24: at Winnipeg

Tuesday

Lightning 4, Capitals 2

Tampa Bay 1 3 0-4

Washington 0 1 1-2

First Period—1, Tampa Bay, Stamkos 6

(Point, Hedman), 13:53 (pp).

Second Period—2, Tampa Bay, Kucherov 7 (Hedman, Stamkos), 1:50 (pp), 3,

Tampa Bay, Hedman 1 (Kucherov, Palat),

9:37, 4, Washington, Connolly 4 (Shepherdson, Niskanen), 10:31, 5, Tampa Bay, Point

6 (Coburn, Johnson), 16:03.

Third Period—4, Washington,

Kuznetsov 9 (Oshie, Eller), 16:58.

Shots on Goal—Tampa Bay 10-8-5=23.

Washington 14-11-3=38.

Power-play opportunities—Tampa

Bay 2 of 5; Washington 3 of 3.

Goalies—Tampa Bay, Vasilevsky 9-4

(38 shots-36 saves), Washington, Holtby

10-4 (23-19).

A=18,506 (18,277). T=2:39.

Castroneves gets up to speed by pacing Indy 500 practice

By JENNA FRYER
Associated Press

INDIANAPOLIS — Team Penske topped opening day at Indianapolis Motor Speedway as Simon Pagnaud and Helio Castroneves paced the first practice sessions for the Indianapolis 500.

It was a big boost of confidence for Castroneves, who wasted no time getting up to speed at his favorite race track. The three-time Indianapolis 500 winner was fastest in Tuesday afternoon's opening practice session, while Pagnaud led the morning session.

Pagnaud went 225.787 mph in the morning to earn fastest driver of the day. Castroneves went 224.665 for fastest in the afternoon. The Brazilian was moved by team owner Roger Penske to sports cars this season, but returned to IndyCar last week for the road course race at Indy to prepare for a run at a record-breaking fourth 500 victory later this month.



MICHAEL CONROY/AP

Simon Pagnaud prepares to drive during practice for the Indianapolis 500 on Tuesday. Pagnaud went 225.787 mph.

"It's Helio. We call him the Spider King," Pagnaud said. "This is what he lives for: He loves Indy and he's very, very focused on getting his fourth win. He's very ready, like a fish in the water."

Danica Patrick, preparing for the final race of her career, was 18th on the afternoon speed chart at 222.728 mph.

"Today went really well. We ac-

complished what we wanted to," she said. "A really solid day."

Unlike her test session two weeks ago when she struggled with the weight of the steering wheel, Patrick's biggest issue Tuesday was remembering how to work in traffic. She left IndyCar after the 2011 season finale and spent the last six years in NASCAR.

"I am still not completely confident in traffic. The team, they've

been encouraging me to use my tools," she said. "I'm like, 'I need to feel the traffic first, before we create another variable.'"

It was a busy first day of practice for the May 27 race as Dale Coyne Racing waited until an hour before cars hit the track to announce that Zachary Claman De Melo would be the replacement driver for injured teammate Pietro Fittipaldi. The Canadian made his IndyCar oval debut at the speedway in the rookie orientation program, and his speed of 220.852 led that class.

Fittipaldi was scheduled to make his Indianapolis 500 debut but suffered serious injuries in a May 4 crash at Spa-Francorchamps in Belgium. Fittipaldi is back in Indianapolis rehabilitating, but will be out at least eight weeks.

So Coyne had to find another driver and used Claman De Melo in last week's road course race at Indy, where the driver finished 12th on Saturday. He then had to wait three more days before

Coyne gave him the Indy 500 nod.

"It's an iconic venue and I'm extremely fortunate to be able to have the opportunity to drive here," Claman De Melo said. "It's unfortunate that it's under these circumstances with Pietro's injuries, so I realize how lucky I am to have this chance."

As he was getting ready, Patrick was navigating a throng of autograph collectors stationed firmly outside his garage stall.

Her Ed Carpenter Racing team wanted to get her on track quickly Tuesday morning to check her Chevrolet for any leaks, but they couldn't get her there. She sloggled through as many photographs as she could — including two helmets, a canvas painting and the front end of a stock car from one of her races last year in NASCAR that a fan had brought.

The rest of Tuesday's opening day went to Ed Carpenter, owner of Patrick's car, who was third fastest as Chevrolet drivers took the top three spots.

MLB

Mariners ponder lineup without Cano

By TIM BOOTH
Associated Press

SEATTLE—Mariners general manager Jerry Dipoto felt disappointment first when he learned of Robinson Cano's 80-game suspension for violating baseball's drug agreement.

Then he thought about the opportunities.

"I think you all have figured out that I'm an optimistic person by nature," Dipoto said Tuesday. "And it turned into, 'All right, how do we turn this into as positive as we can and solve the problem?'"

Seattle has rarely fielded the starting lineup it envisioned this season and yet it has stuck around a competitive AL West race. But none of its previous absences will be impactful as the loss of Cano, an All-Star second baseman suspended Tuesday after testing positive for Furosemide, a diuretic that can be used to mask performance-enhancing drugs.

Dipoto said Cano's loss "really leaves an impression." It also puts the pressure on the GM to make a move to keep the Mariners' playoff aspirations alive. Lucky for him, he has a couple of assets working in his favor — a Gold Glove Award-winning second baseman in Dee Gordon already on the roster, and possibly an unexpected influx of cash.

Seattle was already going to



ELAINE THOMPSON/AP

Mariners center fielder Dee Gordon smiles as he goes through a drill before the team's game on Tuesday. Gordon could fill in at second base while Robinson Cano is suspended for 80 games.

be without Cano for a bit after he broke a bone in his right hand this weekend. Gordon Beckham and Andrew Romine were expected to handle second base in the short-term, and that still seems like the plan. But center fielder Gordon is

only a few years removed from winning a Gold Glove at the key stone, and the organization has some outfield depth in the upper levels of the minor leagues.

Still, it would be a reversal of the efforts made in transitioning

Gordon to the outfield after he was acquired via trade last offseason. It's not set the move will happen, but Gordon was already taking infield practice before Tuesday's game.

"I came here to help this team win," Gordon said. "We've got some of the best players in the world on this team. I definitely never imagined this. I was all in on playing center field. I'm not going to sit here and tell you that some days when it didn't go too well in center that I didn't wish I was back at second. But this was the circumstances we have and we just have to continue to move forward."

Dipoto said Gordon's flexibility allows Seattle to look at both outfield and infield options if it seeks an upgrade outside the organization.

"Moving outside, we can now look at the potential for second basemen, we could look at the potential for outfielders — people who can help our team get better," Dipoto said. "The good news is we have answers to supplement our outfield program."

The suspension also means Seattle unexpectedly has an \$11 million windfall it did not expect, since Cano won't be paid during his ban. There are areas where the Mariners could use the money to address issues — either through player signings or taking

on salary via trade — but that's dependent on management unlocking these funds, Dipoto said. The bullpen would be an area of focus. The Mariners invested significant money in Juan Nicasio to be their eighth-inning setup man, but in his previous six outings, Nicasio has allowed 15 hits and eight earned runs in 4½ innings. Lefty specialist Marc Rzepczynski has also struggled with a 10.3 ERA and has just two appearances since April 27.

"That's part of this. This has been less than 24 hours that we've had a chance to process this and not something we've spent a great deal of time," Dipoto said of spending money. "But we've certainly looked at outside alternatives as a possibility."

It'd take a big acquisition to replace Cano's value and consistency. He had appeared in 663 of a possible 687 games in his four-plus seasons with Seattle, and he's batted third in the order in 583 of those games, providing protection for the much of the lineup, including Nelson Cruz in recent seasons.

"We have to deal with it like we see it," Cruz said. "He was (injured). We have to put more effort because he's definitely a huge part of the lineup and the team. Just do like everyone else is doing and do our job."

Briefs

D-backs' Pollock out 4-8 weeks

Associated Press

PHOENIX — Arizona's already sputtering offense has taken a severe hit: Center fielder A.J. Pollock is expected to miss four-to-eight weeks with a broken left thumb.

Pollock was injured diving unsuccessfully for Tyler Saladino's line drive that turned into an inside-the-park home run in the ninth inning of Monday's 7-2 loss to Milwaukee.

Manager Torey Lovullo said Tuesday that Pollock has an avulsion fracture, which occurs where a tendon or ligament attaches to the bone.

The 26-year-old Pollock leads the team with a .293 average, 11 home runs and 33 RBIs. He has an All-Star in 2015 but has not played more than 112 games in a season since because of injuries.

"It's tough to lose anybody," Diamondbacks general manager Mike Hazen said, "but A.J., the way he was playing, it's a pretty big blow. But nobody's going to feel sorry for us. We've got to pick up and move on."

Pollock, who becomes a free agent after this season, missed all but 12 games in 2016 after fracturing his elbow in a headfirst slide at home in the team's final exhibition game. Last year, he missed nearly two months with a groin injury.

"Look, I hurt with A.J. just like everybody else does," Lovullo said. "We are all aware of the season that he was having. I can't give you his gut reaction but mine is one of empathy and understanding of what he's probably walking through right now in dealing with frustration."

Arizona began the night with a major league-low .223 batting average and a six-game losing streak, its longest in two seasons.

Lovullo said Jarrod Dyson and Chris Owings would fill in for Pollock, who is one of the best defensive outfielders in the National League. Dyson was signed as a free agent in the offseason after playing for Seattle. Owings, the starter Tuesday night, has become a do-everything infielder-outfielder but has not played in center since 2016.

"We feel like we have created depth here for these situations," Lovullo said, "and it's time for guys to step up and take advantage of opportunities until A.J. returns."

Pollock was hurt when his glove hand appeared to fold over as he hit the ground in his diving attempt, the ball sailing past him.

Neither Lovullo nor Hazen would criticize Pollock for trying to make the play, regardless of the risk of injury.

"We never ask our athletes to back down from any challenge,

from any play," Lovullo said. "That's what good teammates do."

Boston's Smith injured during tantrum

BOSTON — Red Sox pitcher Carson Smith dislocated his pitching shoulder during a tantrum and went on the 10-day disabled list Tuesday, an injury Boston said could be major.

The 28-year-old right-hander was hurt when he threw his glove in the dugout after leaving Monday night's 6-5 loss to Oakland. He entered with the Red Sox trailing 5-4 in the eighth, allowed Kris Davis' leadoff home run, then retired three straight batters. Brian Johnson relieved to start the ninth.

"He's very apologetic," Red Sox president of baseball operations Dave Dombrowski said Tuesday. "When he left the game, he was upset. He threw his glove and when he threw his glove, his shoulder subluxed. And that's how he got hurt."

Beltre goes back on DL with hamstring injury

SEATTLE — Adrian Beltre's return from the disabled list lasted just five games.

The Texas Rangers put the third baseman back on the DL on Tuesday, two days after he aggra-



ROSS D. FRANKLIN/AP

Diamondbacks center fielder A.J. Pollock lands awkwardly as he dives for a line drive hit by Milwaukee's Tyler Saladino during the ninth inning on Monday.

vated his left hamstring injury.

Rangers assistant general manager Josh Boyd said Texas was awaiting results of Beltre's MRI and could not project a recovery period. Texas made the move retroactive to Monday.

"Unfortunately any time you lose your team leader who is fresh off the DL, of course it has a significant impact," Boyd said.

Dodgers activate Turner, Forsythe

MIAMI — The shuffling Los Angeles Dodgers have activated third baseman Justin Turner and second baseman Logan Forsythe from the 10-day disabled list, and both were in the lineup for Tuesday night's game against Miami.

Turner, an All-Star last year, will make his season debut after breaking his left wrist in spring

training. Forsythe has been sidelined since April 14 because of right shoulder inflammation.

The Dodgers (16-24) have been plagued by injuries and began this week's trip in fourth place in the NL West after being swept in a four-game series last week at home against Cincinnati.

White Sox push back Fulmer's next start

PITTSBURGH — The Chicago White Sox have pushed back Carson Fulmer's next turn in their rotation and plan to give Hector Santiago a spot start.

Fulmer was originally scheduled to pitch Wednesday at Pittsburgh, but instead will go Friday against Texas. Manager Rick Renteria said Tuesday the team wanted to get Fulmer some extra time in between his starts.

MLB SCOREBOARD

American League

East	W	L	Pct	GB
New York	28	12	.700	—
Baltimore	24	16	.667	4 1/2
Toronto	21	21	.500	8
Tampa Bay	19	22	.460	9
Baltimore	13	29	.317	15 1/2

Central Division	W	L	Pct	GB
Cleveland	18	20	.478	—
Minnesota	18	20	.478	1/2
Chicago	17	21	.445	1
Kansas City	13	29	.310	7 1/2
Chicago	18	28	.263	8 1/2

West Division	W	L	Pct	GB
Houston	27	17	.614	—
Seattle	24	17	.585	1 1/2
Los Angeles	24	17	.585	1 1/2
Texas	16	27	.372	10 1/2

Cubs 3, Braves 2

Chicago	ab	r	h	bi
Zobrist rf	4	0	1	0
Bryant bf	4	0	2	0
Rizzo 3b	4	0	0	0
Contreras c	3	1	0	0
J.Baez 2b	4	0	0	0
Schwartz lf	4	0	0	0
Lipp lf	4	0	0	0
Almona cf	4	0	0	0
Russell ss	4	1	1	0
Darvish p	2	0	0	0
M. Martinez	1	0	0	0
Bote ph	1	0	0	0
Strop	1	0	0	0
Edwards p	0	0	0	0
Leila ph	1	0	0	0
Morero p	0	0	0	0
Totals	33	3	6	2

Astros 5, Angels 3

Houston	ab	r	h	bi
Springer cf	4	0	0	0
Bregman 3b	3	2	1	0
Altuve 2b	3	0	2	0
Correia ss	4	0	0	0
Almona cf	4	0	0	0
M.Gonzalez lf	4	0	0	0
Villaverde 1b	4	0	0	0
Reddick rf	4	1	1	0
Fisher lf	4	0	0	0
Barnett ph	1	0	0	0
Totals	34	5	7	3

Los Angeles	ab	r	h	bi
J. Johnson (1)	4	1	1	0
Angels 2 LOB—Houston 4, Los Angeles 4				
2B—Upton (1), Reddick (5), Kinsler (5), M.Gonzalez (2), CS—Aldem (2)				

National League

East Division	W	L	Pct	GB
Atlanta	23	16	.590	—
Philadelphia	22	16	.577	1 1/2
Washington	20	18	.524	3 1/2
New York	20	18	.524	3 1/2
Miami	15	26	.360	10

Central Division	W	L	Pct	GB
Pittsburgh	24	17	.585	—
St. Louis	22	17	.564	1
Cincinnati	14	29	.326	11

West Division	W	L	Pct	GB
Arizona	23	20	.535	—
Colorado	23	20	.535	2 1/2
San Francisco	20	18	.524	3 1/2
Los Angeles	16	25	.390	8 1/2
San Diego	17	27	.386	9

Cubs 3, Braves 2

Atlanta	ab	r	h	bi
F. Suzuki (4)	4	0	0	0
DP—Atlanta 1, LOB—Chicago 6, Atlanta 4				
2B—Contreras (13), Almona (6), Russell (9), HR—Acuna (4), Incarte (4), SB—Albies (6), Freeman (4), Incarte (18), CS—Bryant (2)				

Padres 4, Rockies 0

Houston	ab	r	h	bi
Cole	5	5	3	2
McHugh W-1	0	0	0	0
Harris H-1	1	0	0	0
Giles S-6	1	1	0	0
Barra	7	4	1	1
Alvarez L2-B53	1	0	0	0
Bodnar	1	0	0	0
Johnson	1	0	0	0
HPB—by Barra (15), WP—Barra (2)				
T-318, A—2835 (45,050)				

Padres 4, Rockies 0

Colorado	ab	r	h	bi
Dahl cf	4	0	0	0
Parra lf	4	0	0	0
Aranda 3b	4	0	0	0
Storrs ss	3	0	0	0
Almona lf	4	0	0	0
Walters c	3	0	0	0
Blickman ph	1	0	0	0
Dunn p	0	0	0	0
Cuevas ph	1	0	0	0
Desmond ph	1	0	0	0
Totals	28	0	0	0

Rays 6, Royals 5

Kansas City	ab	r	h	bi
Span lf	5	1	0	0
Wendle 2b	5	1	0	0
Ardu 3b	5	1	0	0
Blmer lf	2	1	0	0
M.Smith cf	1	1	0	0
Gomez rf	1	0	0	0
Field	1	1	0	0
Goins 2b	4	0	1	1
Totals	34	6	3	1

Monday's games

Tampa Bay 2, Kansas City 1
 San Francisco 10, Cincinnati 7
 Oakland 6, Boston 5
 Seattle 1, Chicago Cubs 5
 L.A. Angels 2, Houston 1
 N.Y. Mets 12, Toronto 2
 Minnesota 4, St. Louis 1
 Tampa Bay 6, Kansas City 1
 Houston 10, L.A. Angels 2
 Seattle 5, Texas 11, Innings
 San Francisco 4, Houston, susp
 San Diego 4, Colorado 9
 L.A. Dodgers 2, San Francisco 3
 Chicago 3, Atlanta 2
 Arizona 2, Milwaukee 1
 San Francisco 5, Cincinnati 3

Tuesday's games

Philadelphia at Baltimore
 Chicago White Sox at Detroit
 Oakland 5, Boston 3
 Kansas City 2, Toronto 2
 Minnesota 4, St. Louis 1
 Tampa Bay 6, Kansas City 1
 Houston 10, L.A. Angels 2
 Seattle 5, Texas 11, Innings
 San Francisco 4, Houston, susp
 San Diego 4, Colorado 9
 L.A. Dodgers 2, San Francisco 3
 Chicago 3, Atlanta 2
 Arizona 2, Milwaukee 1
 San Francisco 5, Cincinnati 3

Wednesday's games

Philadelphia at Baltimore
 Chicago White Sox at Detroit
 Oakland 5, Boston 3
 Kansas City 2, Toronto 2
 Minnesota 4, St. Louis 1
 Tampa Bay 6, Kansas City 1
 Houston 10, L.A. Angels 2
 Seattle 5, Texas 11, Innings
 San Francisco 4, Houston, susp
 San Diego 4, Colorado 9
 L.A. Dodgers 2, San Francisco 3
 Chicago 3, Atlanta 2
 Arizona 2, Milwaukee 1
 San Francisco 5, Cincinnati 3

Thursday's games

Oakland (Triggs 3-1) at Toronto (Sanchez 3-1)
 Baltimore (Gausman 3-2) at Boston (Shane Bieber 1-4)
 Texas (Hamels 2-4) at Chicago White Sox (Shane Bieber 1-4)
 Tampa Bay (Archer 2-3) at L.A. Angels (TBD)
 Detroit (Boyd 2-2) at Seattle (Gonzales 3-3)
 L.A. Dodgers (Maeda 2-3) at Miami (Strally 1-0)
 Washington (Lauer 1-2) at Pittsburgh (Kuhl 4-2)
 Philadelphia (Arrieta 3-1) at St. Louis (Weaver 3-1)
 Chicago Cubs (Lester 3-1) at Atlanta (Jacob deGrom 7-1)
 Colorado (Bettis 4-1) at San Francisco (Samardzija 1-2)

Friday's games

Oakland (Triggs 3-1) at Toronto (Sanchez 3-1)
 Baltimore (Gausman 3-2) at Boston (Shane Bieber 1-4)
 Texas (Hamels 2-4) at Chicago White Sox (Shane Bieber 1-4)
 Tampa Bay (Archer 2-3) at L.A. Angels (TBD)
 Detroit (Boyd 2-2) at Seattle (Gonzales 3-3)
 L.A. Dodgers (Maeda 2-3) at Miami (Strally 1-0)
 Washington (Lauer 1-2) at Pittsburgh (Kuhl 4-2)
 Philadelphia (Arrieta 3-1) at St. Louis (Weaver 3-1)
 Chicago Cubs (Lester 3-1) at Atlanta (Jacob deGrom 7-1)
 Colorado (Bettis 4-1) at San Francisco (Samardzija 1-2)

Saturday's games

Oakland (Triggs 3-1) at Toronto (Sanchez 3-1)
 Baltimore (Gausman 3-2) at Boston (Shane Bieber 1-4)
 Texas (Hamels 2-4) at Chicago White Sox (Shane Bieber 1-4)
 Tampa Bay (Archer 2-3) at L.A. Angels (TBD)
 Detroit (Boyd 2-2) at Seattle (Gonzales 3-3)
 L.A. Dodgers (Maeda 2-3) at Miami (Strally 1-0)
 Washington (Lauer 1-2) at Pittsburgh (Kuhl 4-2)
 Philadelphia (Arrieta 3-1) at St. Louis (Weaver 3-1)
 Chicago Cubs (Lester 3-1) at Atlanta (Jacob deGrom 7-1)
 Colorado (Bettis 4-1) at San Francisco (Samardzija 1-2)

Sunday's games

Oakland (Triggs 3-1) at Toronto (Sanchez 3-1)
 Baltimore (Gausman 3-2) at Boston (Shane Bieber 1-4)
 Texas (Hamels 2-4) at Chicago White Sox (Shane Bieber 1-4)
 Tampa Bay (Archer 2-3) at L.A. Angels (TBD)
 Detroit (Boyd 2-2) at Seattle (Gonzales 3-3)
 L.A. Dodgers (Maeda 2-3) at Miami (Strally 1-0)
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 Philadelphia (Arrieta 3-1) at St. Louis (Weaver 3-1)
 Chicago Cubs (Lester 3-1) at Atlanta (Jacob deGrom 7-1)
 Colorado (Bettis 4-1) at San Francisco (Samardzija 1-2)

Monday's games

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Wednesday's games

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 Chicago Cubs (Lester 3-1) at Atlanta (Jacob deGrom 7-1)
 Colorado (Bettis 4-1) at San Francisco (Samardzija 1-2)

Mariners 9, Rangers 8 (11)

Seattle	ab	r	h	bi
DShelds cf	5	0	0	0
Choo dh	6	0	1	0
Proffar ss	6	1	1	0
Mazara rf	5	2	2	0
Gallo lf	5	2	2	0
Kirby 2b	5	1	1	0
R.Chris c	4	0	3	0
Rodriguez 3b	4	0	0	0
C.Perez c	2	0	0	0
Guzman 1b	3	0	1	0
Beckham 2b	4	1	0	0
Totals	48	7	12	0

Seattle	ab	r	h	bi
DShelds cf	5	0	0	0
Choo dh	6	0	1	0
Proffar ss	6	1	1	0
Mazara rf	5	2	2	0
Gallo lf	5	2	2	0
Kirby 2b	5	1	1	0
R.Chris c	4	0	3	0
Rodriguez 3b	4	0	0	0
C.Perez c	2	0	0	0
Guzman 1b	3	0	1	0
Beckham 2b	4	1	0	0
Totals	48	7	12	0

Mets 12, Blue Jays 2

Toronto	ab	r	h	bi
Gdrns lf	4	1	0	0
Driscoll 3b	4	0	0	0
Archie 2b	4	0	0	0
Smook lf	3	1	0	0
Hrmond lf	2	0	0	0
McBry 2b	2	0	0	0
Solar 2b	4	0	2	0
R.Martin c	3	0	0	0
Ortiz 3b	5	4	0	0
Malik c	1	0	0	0
J.Garcia p	0	0	0	0
Perkins 1b	1	0	0	0
Smith Jr lf	1	0	0	0
Totals	32	2	6	0

Mets 12, Blue Jays 2

Toronto	ab	r	h	bi
Gdrns lf	4	1	0	0
Driscoll 3b	4	0	0	0
Archie 2b	4	0	0	0
Smook lf	3	1	0	0
Hrmond lf	2	0	0	0
McBry 2b	2	0	0	0
Solar 2b	4	0	2	0
R.Martin c	3	0	0	0
Ortiz 3b	5	4	0	0
Malik c	1	0	0	0
J.Garcia p	0	0	0	0
Perkins 1b	1	0	0	0
Smith Jr lf	1	0	0	0
Totals	32	2	6	0

Giants 5, Reds 3

Cincinnati	ab	r	h	bi
Peraza ss	4	0	0	0
Winker lf	4	0	0	0
Suarez 2b	4	0	0	0
Gennett 3b	4	0	0	0
Dubch 4b	4	0	0	0
Schultz lf	4	0	0	0
T.Cruz c	3	1	0	0
Brnarph 1b	4	0	0	0
Mahle p	1	0	0	0
Garrett p	0	0	0	0
Blach 2b	1	0	0	0
D.Hrmond lf	0	0	0	0
W.Pritts p	0	0	0	0
Votto ph	1	0	0	0
Hamilton cf	3	0	1	0
Totals	32	3	7	0

Twins 4, Cardinals 1

St. Louis	ab	r	h	bi
Pham cf	4	0	0	0
M.Crnt 1b	4	0	0	0
Freyre 2b	4	0	0	0
Ozuna lf	4	0	0	0
DeJong 2b	4	0	0	0
Bader rf	3	1	0	0
Kelly 2b	3	0	0	0
Penz c	4	0	0	0
Totals	29	1	0	0

Marlins 4, Dodgers 2

MLB

Piscotty's emotional HR helps A's to win

By DOUG ALDEN
Associated Press

BOSTON — With a hand on his heart and a quick glance to the sky, Stephen Piscotty made an emotional salute to his late mother and helped the Oakland Athletics win in his return to the lineup.

Hours after being reinstated from the bereavement list and flying cross-country to join the A's in Boston, Piscotty hit a towering home run out of Fenway Park in his first at-bat Tuesday night as Oakland beat the Boston Red Sox 5-3.

"It was pure joy. It's been an emotional week," said Piscotty, whose mother, Gretchen, died May 6 after a one-year battle with amyotrophic lateral sclerosis, also known as Lou Gehrig's Disease. She was 55.

Piscotty had missed four games to be with his family as they grieved the loss and celebrated Gretchen's life. He slowly made his way around the bases, then after rounding third placed his right hand over his heart and patted it with a glance to the sky.

Coming around third, I just immediately started thinking about my mom and kind of put my hand over my chest like she would do," Piscotty said.

It was a touching moment for anyone aware of what Piscotty and his family had been through.

"To hit a home run in his first at-bat like that, there's something in the air. Probably Gretchen," Oakland manager Bob Melvin said. "It was like a walkoff. The guys just embraced him when he got in the dugout."

Melvin actually gave Piscotty the option to sit out Tuesday, when he got a ride to the airport around 3:45 a.m. in California for a flight to Boston. Piscotty, who said he still felt like he was on West Coast time, declined the option.

"He wanted to play. He's on little sleep, a lot of adrenaline," Melvin said. "I know he was really looking forward to that first at-bat. To be able to do what he did tells you a little something about him."

Piscotty drove an 0-2 pitch from Eduardo Rodriguez out to left in the second inning. Piscotty's third homer of the season was his only hit of the night and put the A's up 3-0. Matt Chapman and Mark Canha had two RBIs apiece for the A's, who took the first two games of the series against the struggling Red Sox.

Andrew Benintendi homered for Boston and Mitch Moreland finished with a pair of doubles for the Red Sox, who have struggled with their torrid start to the season.

Daniel Mengden (3-4) pitched six solid innings for Oakland, scattering eight hits and holding Boston to two runs — one earned — and struck out three. Blake

Treinen finished it off for his eighth save of the season and Oakland improved to 4-1 against Boston this season.

"We haven't been able to put them away," Boston manager Alex Cora said. "They're young and it seems like they're turning a corner. Whatever they're doing over there is pretty good."

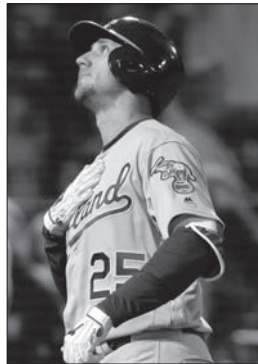
Rodriguez (3-1) took his first loss of the season after getting roughed up in the first few innings. Oakland had six hits through the first three innings, starting with back-to-back singles by Marcus Semien and Chad Pinder to start the game. Both scored on a double by Chapman, who drove a pitch from Rodriguez over the head of Mookie Betts in right field.

Rodriguez was pulled after throwing 98 pitches in five innings.

"They were swinging a lot and getting a lot of foul balls," Rodriguez said. "I was getting a lot of like 0-2 counts and then going to 3-2. I need to work at putting guys out quicker than that."

Benintendi's solo homer in the fifth pulled Boston back within 3-2, but the A's tacked on a pair of runs in the eighth.

The game was scheduled to begin at 7:10 p.m., but didn't get under way until 8:52 p.m. because of heavy rain and lightning.



STEVEN SENNE/AP

The Athletics' Stephen Piscotty looks up as he arrives at home plate after hitting a home run off the Red Sox's Eduardo Rodriguez during the second inning Tuesday in Boston.

Roundup

Cubs throw out 2 at home, rally to top Braves

Associated Press

ATLANTA — Willson Contreras threw one away, then made the tag at home plate to keep the Braves off the scoreboard in the very first inning.

Turns out, the Chicago catcher was just getting warmed up.

Contreras threw out runners at home and third during a wild fifth inning, and the Cubs rallied for two runs in the ninth to stun first-place Atlanta 3-2 on Tuesday night.

"We'll take it," Chicago manager Joe Maddon said.

This one really stung for the Braves, who were coming off a 6-1 road trip that propelled them to the best record in the National League.

They were fuming after two questionable calls on the basepaths in the fifth ruined a potentially big inning.

With the game tied at 1 in the fifth, the Braves put runners at first and third with no outs.

Mike Montgomery's pitch skipped past Contreras but caught a fortuitous ricochet, bouncing right back to the catcher so he could make a quick throw to Montgomery covering home. Johan Camargo was called out by plate umpire Jim Wolf to call him out. The Braves challenged, and at least one replay angle appeared to show Camargo splitting his left hand to the plate a split-second ahead of the tag.

After a two-minute review, the call was upheld.

"There wasn't enough evidence to overturn it, I guess," Braves manager Brian Snitker said with a shrug.



JOHN BAZEMORE/AP

Braves first baseman Freddie Freeman, right, is tagged out by Cubs catcher Willson Contreras in the first inning Tuesday in Atlanta.

The manager was angry again when another pitch got away from Contreras. Charlie Culberson broke for third and appeared to get a foot to the bag before Kris Bryant tagged his ankle, but he was called out.

With no more challenges, there was nothing the Braves could do. "Everybody said he was safe," Snitker said. "It would be nice to have a couple of those challenges."

After Ronald Acuna Jr. broke a 1-1 tie with a mammoth homer in the eighth, the Cubs bounced back against Atlanta closer Aro-

dys Vizcaino. Back-to-back doubles by Albert Almora Jr. and Addison Russell tied it at 2, and Ben Zobrist came through with a two-out, run-scoring single off Vizcaino (1-2).

Chicago's Yu Darvish returned from the disabled list after a bout with the flu, only to work just four innings because of cramping.

Marlins 4, Dodgers 2: Host Los Angeles went 0-for-7 with runners in scoring position against Wei-Yin Chen and four relievers and were beaten by a last-place team for the fifth straight game.

The NL champions managed

only five hits after being swept in a four-game series at home by woeful Cincinnati. Alex Wood (0-4) lost despite allowing only one earned run in six innings for the Dodgers (16-25), who are off of their worst start in 60 years. Miami (15-26) could pass them by sweeping the three-game series.

Padres 4, Rockies 0: Jordan Lyles came (1-1) within five outs of a perfect game and the first no-hitter in host San Diego history before allowing Trevor Story's single.

Lyles then walked Pat Valaika and made way for Kirby Yates. Brad Hand got four outs to complete the one-hitter and earn his 12th save.

Mariners 9, Rangers 8 (11): Guillermo Heredia's single to left-center drove in Ryon Healy from second base in the 11th inning to help reach Seattle.

Healy roached on a bloop single to right field off Texas reliever Alex Claudio (1-2) and advanced to second when David Freitas reached on an infield single deep in the hole at shortstop.

The late-game rally provided a positive end for the Mariners on a bumper day in which star second baseman Robinson Cano was suspended 80 games for violating MLB's drug policy.

Mets 12, Blue Jays 2: Noah Syndergaard (3-1) won for the first time in five weeks, knocking in two early runs against the team that traded him to rouse a sluggish host New York offense.

Missing injured sluggers Yoenis Cespedes and Todd Frazier from a slumping lineup, the Mets finally broke through anyway

against Jaime Garcia (2-3) and the skidding Blue Jays after an 86-minute rain delay at the start.

Diamondbacks 2, Brewers 1: Daniel Descalso singled home Jarrod Dyson with two outs in the eighth inning, and host Arizona snapped a six-game losing streak.

The Diamondbacks managed just three hits against starter Jhoulys Chacin and three relievers, but starter Zack Greinke stifled Milwaukee over six innings and Arizona tied together just enough offense to get by.

Pirates 7, White Sox 0: Trevor Williams (5-2) scattered six hits in seven innings, and Adam Prazier homered to start a four-run first for host Pittsburgh.

Tigers 9, Indians 8: JaCoby Jones homered and doubled, and host Detroit rallied in a five-run seventh as Andrew Miller (1-2) allowed two inherited runners to score and gave up two runs of his own. Pete Kozma hit a tying, two-run double, and Miller walked John Hicks with the bases loaded.

Twins 4, Cardinals 1: Bobby Wilson hit his first home run since Sept. 21, 2016, for visiting Tampa Bay, a two-run drive off Luke Gregerson that capped a three-run seventh.

Rays 6, Royals 5: Jonny Venters (1-0) got two outs for his first victory since Sept. 27, 2012, while with Atlanta against the Mets. The left-hander had been out since 2012 due to four major elbow surgeries, including three Tommy John operations, before returning to the majors this season with the visiting Rays.

SPORTS BRIEFS/NBA PLAYOFFS



CHUCK BURTON/AP

The wife of former U.S. Open champion Lucas Glover (above) is facing domestic violence charges stemming from an altercation with Glover and his mother after he missed the 54-hole cut at The Players Championship last weekend. Krista Glover was arrested Saturday night and taken to the St. Johns County Jail. She was released on \$2,500 bond on Sunday.

Briefly

MSU settles for \$500M

University agrees to pay more than 300 Nassar assault victims

Associated Press

LANSING, Mich. — Michigan State University has agreed to pay \$500 million to more than 300 women and girls who said they were assaulted by sports doctor Larry Nassar in the worst sex-abuse case in sports history, the university announced Wednesday.

The deal surpasses the more than \$109 million that Penn State University paid to settle claims by at least 35 people that assistant football coach Jerry Sandusky had sexually abused boys, though the Nassar settlement involves far more victims.

"We are truly sorry to all the survivors and their families for what they have been through, and we admire the courage it has taken to tell their stories," said Brian Breslin, chairman of Michigan State's governing board. "We recognize the need for change on our campus and in our community around sexual assault awareness and prevention."

The statement did not indicate how much money each victim would receive. It also did not say how Michigan State will pay the bill.

The university and lawyers for 332 victims announced the deal after negotiating privately with the help of a mediator. Under the agreement, \$425 million would be paid to current claimants and \$75 million would be set aside for any future claims.

Michigan State was accused

of ignoring or dismissing complaints about Nassar, some as far back as the 1990s. The school has insisted that no one covered up assaults.

Nassar pleaded guilty to molesting women and girls under the guise that it was treatment. He was also found to have child pornography and is serving prison sentences that will likely keep him locked up for life.

He treated campus athletes and scores of young gymnasts at his Michigan State office. He built an international reputation while working at the same time for USA Gymnastics, which trains Olympians.

Olympic gold medalists Jordyn Wieber, Aly Raisman, Gabby Douglas and McKayla Maroney say they were among Nassar's victims.

"This historic settlement came about through the bravery of more than 300 women and girls who had the courage to stand up and refuse to be silenced," said John Manly, the lead attorney for the victims.

The deal applies only to Michigan State. Lawsuits still are pending against Indianapolis-based USA Gymnastics, and the U.S. Olympic Committee and an elite gymnastics club in the Lansing-area where assaults occurred.

Golfer's wife arrested after bad round at TPC

PONTE VEDRA BEACH, Fla. — The wife of former U.S. Open

champion Lucas Glover is facing a domestic violence charge stemming from an altercation with Glover and his mother after he missed the 54-hole cut at The Players Championship.

Krista Glover was arrested Saturday night and taken to the St. John's County Jail. She was released the next day after posting \$2,500 in bonds.

She faces a May 31 court date on misdemeanor charges of domestic violence battery and resisting arrest without violence.

According to the offense report, Glover and his wife were having an altercation after the third round of The Players Championship, where Glover shot 78. The report said that when his mother, Hershey Glover, tried to intervene, Krista Glover began attacking her.

The arresting officer noticed cuts and blood on the arms and clothing of Glover's mother. Hershey Glover also told the deputy she had been hit in the chest.

Glover confirmed on Twitter there was an altercation.

"Everyone is fine," Glover said. "Regrettably, although Krista was charged, we are comfortable that the judicial system is able to address what actually happened and Krista will be cleared in this private matter."

The sheriff's report said Glover's mother declined to pursue charges.

The report said Glover told the deputy his wife often starts arguments with him after he plays poorly.

Down: Boston dominates as LeBron gets little help

FROM BACK PAGE

Korver added 11 points off the bench for Cleveland. But starters Thompson, JR Smith and George Hill combined for just 11 points on 5-for-17 shooting.

Tempers flared with 3:49 to play with Boston leading 97-89. Marcus Smart got in Smith's face after Smith pushed Horford in the back to prevent a layup. Smith shoved Smart and the pair had to be separated.

Smith was assessed a flagrant foul and both received technical fouls.

"I felt like it was uncalled for that type of play there," Horford said. "We have each other's backs. ... We moved on to the next play and we locked in after that."

Smith said there was no malicious intent on the play.

"I blatantly pushed him. It wasn't like I was trying to low bridge him or something. Just make sure he didn't get it," Smith said. "It was a good, hard foul."

Boston's balanced attack was effective again, with six players reaching double figures. Cleveland had 15 turnovers leading to 13 Boston points. The Celtics turned it over just six times.

Boston led 84-77 after three quarters and took command late in the fourth with the Cavs getting little offense other than from James. Cleveland's starters were pulled with 1:48 left and the Cavs won 104-84.

James was on the attack from the opening tip. He turned the ball over the Cavs' first possession. But it was one of his only miscues in the first quarter.

James was also astoundingly efficient, using his dribble to create space, while he knocked down an assortment of jump shots.

He finished the opening quarter 8-for-13 from the field and 4-for-7 from the three-point line.

His momentum was stunted briefly at the 3:50 mark of the second quarter, when Jayson Tatum was whistled for a foul after catching James jaw with his shoulder as he attempted a steal. James stayed in the game and connected on one of his ensuing free throws, but then exited to the locker room with Cleveland leading 47-36.

The Cavaliers said James had a neck sprain. He returned after missing less than two minutes of game time.

Boston flurried just before the half, getting six points from Morris in the final minute to trim the Cavaliers' lead to 55-48 at the break.

"I think we just have a group of guys that really believe in each other," Horford said. "Our group in tough times, we've always found a way."

Quotable: "We've got to be tougher. I think they're playing tougher than we are. We see that. They're being physical. They're going the game up and we've got to do the same thing." — Cavaliers coach Ty Lue



CHARLES KRUPA/AP

Celtics forward Marcus Morris reacts to a basket against the Cavaliers during the second half Tuesday in Boston.

40-Point man: According to Elias Sports Bureau, James now has three career playoff 40-point triple-doubles. That is the most in NBA postseason history.

Defending a teammate: Smart said Smith's play was a "dirty shot."

"That's not the first time JR has done some dirty stuff, especially playing against us," he said. "It's like a bully, you keep letting a bully keep picking on you, he's going to pick on you until you finally stand up. And that's what I tried to do."

Up next: Game 3 is Saturday in Cleveland.

Scoreboard

Conference finals

(Best-of-7; x-if necessary)

Eastern Conference
Boston 2, Cleveland 0
 Boston 108, Cleveland 83
x-Wednesday, May 23: at Cleveland
x-Friday, May 25: at Cleveland
Saturday: at Cleveland; **AFN-Sports**
2:30 a.m. Sunday CET; 9:30 a.m. Sunday JKT.

Monday: at Cleveland; **AFN-Sports**
2:30 a.m. Tuesday, CET; 9:30 a.m. JKT.
x-Wednesday, May 23: at Boston
x-Friday, May 25: at Boston
x-Sunday, May 27: at Boston

Western Conference
Golden State 1, Houston 0
 Golden State 115, Houston 106
Wednesday, May 23: at Houston
Sunday: at Golden State; **AFN-Sports**
2:30 a.m. Monday, CET; 9:30 a.m. JKT.

Tuesday, May 24: at Houston
x-Saturday, May 26: at Golden State
x-Monday, May 28: at Houston

Tuesday

Celtics 107, Cavaliers 94

CLEVELAND — James 16-29 5-10 42, Love 9-18 2-22, Thompson 4-6 0-0 8, Hill 1-4 1-2 3, Smith 0-7 0-0 8, Nance Jr. 0-1 0-0 0, Green 2-5 1-2 6, Osman 0-0-0 0, Calderon 0-0 0-0, Hood 1-2 0-0 2, Korver 4-8 1-1 11, Totals 37-80 10-19 94

BOSTON — Tatum 5-12 0-11, Morris 5-14 1-12, Horford 8-15 1-5, Rozier 7-16 2-21 8, Brown 9-18 2-23, Ojeleye 0-0 2-2 2, Smart 1-1 0-0 2, Nabuute 0-0 0-0 0, Baynes 4-7 0-0 9, Monroe 1-2 2-4, Smart 3-9 4-4 11, Totals 40-92 17-20 107

Boston 23 25 36 23-107
 Three-point Goals: 10-31
 (James 5-11, Korver 2-5, Love 2-6, Green 1-3, Hill 0-2, Smith 0-2), Boston 10-31
 (Brown 3-6, Rozier 8-8, Baynes 1-1, Smart 1-3, Tatum 1-3, Horford 1-4, Morris 1-4).
 Fouls: Boston 19, Cleveland 18
 (Cleveland 45 (Love 15), Boston 46 (Horford 10), Assists—Cleveland 18 (James 12), Boston 24 (Smart 9), Total Fouls—Cleveland 21, Boston 18. Technicals—Thompson, Smith, Morris, Smart. A—18,624 (18,624).

NBA



MATT YORK/AP

Suns coach Igor Kokoskov, who was introduced on Monday, is particularly familiar with Slovenia's Luka Doncic, who will be coming to the NBA from Real Madrid.

3 great candidates for Phoenix at No. 1

By TIM REYNOLDS
Associated Press

CHICAGO — Deandre Ayton might be going back to Arizona after all. The same can be true for Marvin Bagley III. Or maybe Luka Doncic gets to reunite with his past coach.

The Phoenix Suns have a trio of fine candidates for the No. 1 pick in the NBA draft.

In various ways, the team already has an element of familiarity with each one of them.

Ayton played his college ball at Arizona. Bagley, the Duke freshman star this past season, is an Arizona native. And Doncic, the Slovenian teen who has been tabbed a can't-miss NBA prospect, won a title with new Suns coach Igor Kokoskov last summer — when they helped give the tiny nation its biggest sports win, a gold medal at the European Championships.

These are good days for the Suns, who have gone through three dreadful seasons and eight consecutive playoff-less campaigns. But they have a new coach in Kokoskov, a promising young core and after winning the draft lottery on Tuesday night, a chance to pick No. 1 overall at the draft in New York next month.

"It's not a race," said Josh Jackson, who just completed his rookie season with Phoenix and is part of that young group that the Suns believe will get them back into the playoff mix before long. "We're going to progress at our pace. Any progression is good progression, in my opinion. So wherever we are, hopefully we keep taking steps forward."

This draft could be a big step forward.

Start with Ayton, who averaged 20.1 points and 11.6 rebounds in his one college season at Arizona. He came to the U.S. from the Bahamas, hoping for great things but never expecting this high of the cards he was dealt.

Bagley was the Atlantic Coast Conference player and rookie of the year, leading the league in scoring (21.0 per game) and rebounding (11.1 per game). Unlike Ayton, he's expected to work

at the draft combine that commences in earnest in Chicago on Thursday, and he will be on the Suns' radar.

He said he would obviously welcome the chance to go back to Arizona, where he was born and raised.

"It would mean a lot if it were to happen that way," Bagley said.

Doncic will get plenty of support from Kokoskov, and others who know his game well — like Miami guard Goran Dragic — insist that he has the ability and intellect to make a quick impact in the NBA.

"It's been a good month for us, a good week in particular," Suns general manager Ryan McDonough said. "We targeted a three-year rebuilding window and I know it's been a little bit controversial in some ways. ... If you're serious about winning a championship someday in the NBA, it's really hard to build through the middle, so to speak."

So three years ago, when they couldn't convince LaMarcus Aldridge to come to Phoenix, the Suns decided it was time to push the reset button.

The results: They got budding stars in Devin Booker and Jackson, wound up creating some cap space to spend on veterans this summer, and will not only have the No. 1 pick but also two others in the top 31 selections in this draft.

"The future's bright," McDonough said. "And our hope and our goal is to be a lot better next year."

McDonough left the lottery holding a placard with a big red "1" on it, and Jackson left with the one bearing the Suns logo that NBA deputy commissioner Mark Tatum displayed when announcing that Phoenix won the right to pick first.

The Suns aren't holding all the cards.

They're just holding the most important ones.

"We have a small target grouping in mind, but we're not going to rule anything out at this point," McDonough said. "I think we'll have a great choice, no matter who we select."

Suns win draft lottery; Kings, Hawks move up

By TIM REYNOLDS
Associated Press

CHICAGO — Phoenix general manager Ryan McDonough was on stage moments after the NBA draft lottery ended, talking about the future of the Suns and mentioning how they had the best odds of picking No. 1 overall.

And then he stopped to correct himself. "We have No. 1," McDonough said. "I've got to adjust to that."

It's an adjustment that he and the Suns will happily be making.

The worst team in the league this season will pick first in the NBA Draft on June 21, after the Suns won the draft lottery on Tuesday night. It's the first time the Suns will have the chance to make the first overall selection.

"It's great for our franchise," said McDonough, whose club went 21-61 this season and missed the playoffs for an eighth consecutive year. "It's something that you say coming into it, you don't have any control over so you're not going to get nervous. And I was here doing. I could barely breathe. I needed an oxygen tank."

The Suns have three great candidates for No. 1, all with ties to either Arizona or new Phoenix coach Igor Kokoskov. Arizona freshman center Deandre Ayton is widely expected to be a strong candidate to go No. 1 overall, and he was at the lottery to watch the Suns win the pick. So was Duke's Marvin Bagley III, an Arizona native.

And Kokoskov is particularly familiar with Slovenia's Luka Doncic, who will be coming to the NBA from Real Madrid. Kokoskov coached Slovenia — and Doncic — to the gold medal at the European championships last summer.

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"We have a small target grouping in mind, but we're not going to rule anything out at this point," McDonough said. "I think we'll have a great choice, no matter who we select."

The Suns were big winners. So were Sacramento and Atlanta.

Sacramento will pick No. 2 and Atlanta got the No. 3 pick — both of them moving up and bucking some odds to get there. The top three spots were determined by the lottery, and then spots 4-14 fell in line of reverse order of record.

Sacramento had an 18.3 percent chance entering the lottery of moving into the top three, while Atlanta's move-up was really just a slightly bigger upset than a coin-flip — the Hawks came into the night with a 42.3 percent chance of getting picks 1, 2 or 3.

"No big deal. It's a deep draft," Kings vice presi-

dent and general manager Vlade Divac said. "We're going to do our job and obviously, I'm glad that we played the last two years to develop guys and try to win games. You cannot develop guys if you don't teach them how to win."

The Hawks, like the Suns, got their lottery result one day after introducing a new coach. Lloyd Pierce is taking over in Atlanta.

The rest of the slots, in order, went to No. 4 Memphis, No. 5 Dallas, No. 6 Orlando, No. 7 Chicago, No. 8 Cleveland, No. 9 New York, No. 10 Philadelphia, No. 11 Charlotte, No. 12 and No. 13 Los Angeles Clippers, and No. 14 Denver.

The draft is June 21 at Barclays Center in Brooklyn.

The lottery has been around since 1985, was tweaked to a weighted system in 1990 and will be changing again next year in an effort to discourage teams from tanking.

Going forward, the three teams with the worst regular-season records will all have 14 percent chances of winning the No. 1 pick, the fourth-worst team will have a 12.5 percent chance and the fifth-worst 10.5 percent. So there will still be a benefit to being bad, but the odds will be so similar among the bottom five teams — a 3.5 percent differential in the race for No. 1, instead of the 16.2 percent gap like this year — that the reward for losing might be lessened.

"I don't like that word, what is it, tanking?" Divac said. "I hate it."

Josh Jackson, who just completed his rookie season with Phoenix, represented the Suns on the stage, for the public announcement of what was drawn in secret about an hour earlier. Only a handful of team representatives, NBA officials and media knew the outcome of the lottery before it was revealed publicly and they were all sequestered until the results were aired.

Jackson said he thinks the Suns need a big man. That means his vote, for now anyway, is Ayton.

"He's got so much potential," Jackson said.

The Suns felt the same way about themselves. They have three picks in the first 31 in this draft, plus have some cap room to work with this summer. The plan, McDonough said, is to add some veterans to mold what will be a young core led by the likes of Devin Booker, Jackson and potentially whoever the No. 1 pick is next month.

With some more luck, Jackson won't be going to more lotteries.

"Hopefully we won't be sitting up here too much longer," Jackson said.



CHARLES REX ARBOGAST/AP

Arizona's DeAndre Ayton poses for a portrait before the NBA Draft lottery on Tuesday in Chicago.

SPORTS



Striking back

Tampa Bay cuts Eastern finals deficit with 4-2 win » **NHL, Page 26**

NBA PLAYOFFS

Two down

Celtics overcome James' 42 to put Cavs in early hole

Boston Celtics guard Terry Rozier soars toward the basket past Cleveland Cavaliers forward LeBron James during the second half in Game 2 of the Eastern Conference finals Tuesday in Boston. Below: James rests on the bench during the second half.

PHOTOS BY CHARLES KRUPA/AP

By KYLE HIGHTOWER
Associated Press

BOSTON — The Celtics punched the Cavaliers first and never looked back in rolling to a Game 1 rout.

LeBron James took a literal shot to the jaw in Game 2 but kept right on scoring. So did the Celtics.

Jaylen Brown scored 23 points and Boston withstood a 42-point night by James to beat Cleveland 107-94 on Tuesday and take a 2-0 lead in the Eastern Conference finals.

Terry Rozier added 18 points, while Al Horford finished with 15 points and 10 rebounds.

Boston improved to 9-0 this postseason

at TD Garden. The Celtics have never blown a 2-0 series lead in the playoffs.

"We're going to fight," Rozier said. "At this point we don't care if we win by half a point. If we win, that's all that matters."

James added 12 assists and 10 rebounds. He scored 21 of Cleveland's 27 points in the first quarter, tying his playoff career high for points in a period. His 42 points marked his fifth 40-point game of this postseason. James had just 15 points and missed all five of his 3-point attempts in the Cavs' Game 1 loss.

But he didn't seem to play with the same force after straining his neck in a first-half collision and the Cavaliers wilted in the second half, with the Celtics outscoring them 59-39.

"I think I'll be fine. I'm not going to lose sleep over it. You go out and when you lay everything on the line, at the end of the day, you can live with that," he said. "They did what they had to do, and that was protect home, and now it's our time to try to do that, as well."

Kevin Love finished with 22 points and 15 rebounds for Cleveland.

As expected, Tristan Thompson started in place of Kyle Korver in the hopes his presence could energize what was a sluggish Cavs offense in Game 1. Thompson got Cleveland's first basket of the night and helped to limit Horford's effectiveness on the inside early on.

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Suns win NBA Draft lottery;
Kings, Hawks follow » **NBA, Page 31**

Michigan State settles claims with Nassar
victims for \$500 million » **Sports briefs, Page 30**

